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The *Passenger* **PIGEON**



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EDITORS

Bettie R. and Neil A. Harriman
5188 Bittersweet Lane
Oshkosh, WI 54901
920. 233. 1973
bettie@new.rr.com
harriman@uwosh.edu

BIRD REPORTS COORDINATOR

Joe Schaufenbuel
5676 Regent Street
Stevens Point, WI 54482-9170
715. 345. 2788
schaufenbuel@charter.net

ASSISTANT EDITOR (Art)

Dennis Malueg
N6987 State Road 49
Fremont, WI 54940
920. 867. 2521
littleo@execpc.com

FIELD NOTE COMPILER (Spring)

Andrea Szymczak
822 Lemira Avenue
Waukesha, WI 53188
262. 370. 8403
harrierhawk1@gmail.com

FIELD NOTE COMPILER (Summer)

Randy Hoffman
305 Fifth Street
Waunakee, WI 53597
608. 849. 4502
ecurlew@hotmail.com

FIELD NOTE COMPILER (Autumn)

Robert C. Domagalski
PO Box 396
St. Nazianz, WI 54232
920. 881. 4002
rcd2@new.rr.com

FIELD NOTE COMPILER (Winter)

Kay L. Kavanagh
712 Lakeview Lane
Niagara, WI 54151-9021
715. 589. 2299
kkav@uplogon.com

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Send all manuscripts and related correspondence to the Editors. Information for "Seasonal Field Notes" should be sent to the Bird Reports Coordinator (see inside back cover). Art work and questions about the art should be sent to the Assistant Editor for art (see left column). Manuscripts that deal with Wisconsin birds, ornithological topics of interest to WSO members, and WSO activities are considered for publication. For detailed submission guidelines, see pages 131–132 of the Summer 2007 issue (Vol. 69, No. 2) or contact the Editors. As a general guide to style, use issues after Vol. 60, No. 1, 1998.

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Cover Figure: This Inca Dove became a new state list species when it was documented at Concordia University in the fall of 2011. This photo was taken by Jim Edlhuber on 1 November 2011 and shows how easy it is for this species to hide in plain sight.

Who and What is our “Society” and Who is its New Leader?

This is actually my second attempt at writing my first president's statement. I put the first one back in the drawer after a night's sleep and started over, remembering my mother's oft-repeated advice that you never get a second chance to make a good first impression. And assuming there wasn't a floor fight at the 73rd annual convention of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, this is my first chance to introduce myself to you as the Society's new president.

Such is the publication schedule for a quarterly journal like the Passenger Pigeon that Tom Schultz was writing his final President's Statement before he had quite finished his two years leading our Society. And so it follows that I am writing this about five weeks before the annual convention at which I am scheduled to be elected as his successor. And judging by advance registration there was a full house for our first return to the state capital in 23 years. Hats off to convention chair Christine Zimmerman for the success of this key annual event in the life of WSO.

I highlight the convention because it was the event that first drew me to join WSO 25 years ago, and it was in recollecting that fact that I decided to reflect on what it means to be a “society.”

This is how we officially describe our organization:

“Members in the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology include those who enjoy birds attracted to their homes by feeders and bird houses, those who pursue field study or bird banding as a hobby, and those who engage in ornithology professionally.”

Merriam-Webster, in turn, offers several definitions of “society,” but these two stand out when I think of WSO:

2—A voluntary association of individuals for common ends; especially: an organized group working together or periodically meeting because of common interests, beliefs, or profession.

*3—An enduring and cooperating **social** group whose members have developed organized patterns of relationships through interaction with one another.*

I suspect that both our own description and the dictionary definitions explain a lot about the strength and the diversity of WSO. Here, in a nutshell, is what I have learned about our membership in 25 years:

We are both one and many. We have common ends, but disparate beginnings, backgrounds, and levels of engagement. Some of us are “ornithologists,” others of us bird watchers, or “backyard birders,” or listers, or even “twitchers.”

Among us are bird painters, bird photographers, and bird writers. Some of us have traveled the world to add rare species to our life lists, while others don't even keep a list of the birds in our backyards yet know more intimate details about some of those individuals than the scientists who study them for a living. Some of us are professional educators, but still more of us are teachers, and all of us are still learning. In short, we all love birds, but we show it in many different and wonderful ways.

So by way of introducing myself, let me share briefly my life story as a birder. It does not go back as far as my mentor and friend Noel Cutright's, who swears he can remember watching birds out the kitchen window while being bathed in the sink by his mom. My memory has never been that good, but it does begin with watching the birds my mother fed in our downstate Illinois backyard while consulting her *Golden Guide to Birds*. Then there is a long gap that doesn't really pick up until the late 1970s, after I was settled in as a national editor at The Milwaukee Journal. While vacationing in Florida, I discovered the Ding Darling and Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuges and the herons and egrets that wintered there. I quickly learned that many of those same birds (even the less common ones) could be found summering in Wisconsin, and I wanted to learn and see more.

My first actual "field list" dates to a 1982 cross-country car trip to California. Those birds whetted my appetite for a short-course with Winnie Woodmansee and John Idzikowski at the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center in Bayside, and that would lead to my first "Rock River Ramble" field trip

with John Byrne and Mark Feider. But it was a week of birding instruction at Pigeon Lake Field Station near Drummond, Wisconsin, with Fred Leshner and Jean Ruhser and a dozen fellow disciples that really made me a "birder" and introduced me to "hot spots" like Crex Meadows and Wisconsin Point and to WSO.

That week gave me a sense of what it was like to spend time with folks who were as passionate about birds as I had become. And so I would attend my first convention in 1988 at Carroll College in Waukesha, starting with what then was called the "Pre-Convention Bus Trip." That long weekend brought together such a wealth of great experiences that it was hard to decide what I liked best. Was it the previously unvisited birding sites that Tom Schultz and Jeff Baughman led us to? Was it the "life birds" like a White-faced Ibis seen through my just-purchased spotting scope at Frog Alley in the Vernon Marsh or my first Orchard Oriole at Bong State Recreation Area? Was it the chance to learn from more experienced birders? Was it all the interesting people on the bus—some, like Alex Kailing, Bob Adams, and Sam Robbins, who are no longer with us? Was it Carl Hayssen's pool on how many birds we'd see in two days? Or the predawn travel with hot coffee and donuts?

In truth, it was all those things and more, and it went well beyond a bus trip. It was the convention itself, with papers presented by the likes of Fran Hammerstrom and Charles Weise, as well as the quarterly *Passenger Pigeon* journal, the monthly *Badger Birder* newsletter, and the monthly field trips. It was being part of a society, it was enjoying social interaction with a

common purpose and a sense that, together, we had a chance to make a difference for the birds that had brought us together. It was what has made WSO one of the largest and strongest statewide birding groups in the nation. And it's why I am honored to have an opportunity to help lead it.

In his farewell statement, Tom talked a lot about the future, and particularly about the strategic planning committee that he appointed to undertake an in-depth study of WSO. In this, my inaugural statement, I wanted to salute Tom for launching this effort, with the encouragement of several past WSO presidents, notably Randy Hoffman and Noel Cutright. I also wanted to pledge my commitment to them, and to the other committee members, Bettie Harriman and Bill Mueller, to see that planning process through. And I want to pledge to our membership that we intend to seek your input as well. It is vital, as Tom noted, to keep the Society up-to-date with the changes facing us as a membership organization, as birders, and as a conservation community facing challenging times at both the local and global levels.

That's why WSO already is tackling some of the issues identified early on in strategic planning. We owe a big debt of thanks first to Jesse Peterson, a past president who remains on the board as membership chair, for lead-

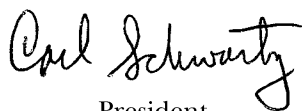
ing the update of WSO's web site, and now to Paul Jakoubek, who has joined the board as web site administrator, striving to keep the site current and newsy, while adding online membership and convention sign-up using PayPal or a credit card.

Our web site also connects our members to electronic advances in how WSO helps us find birds and then how we report our sightings. WSO still leads field trips, but our web site and email allow us the flexibility to alter our schedule depending on the migration, while the Wisconsin Birding Network and the Wisconsin Birding group on Facebook allow birders to connect with each other as never before.

As records chair and bird reports coordinator respectively, Ryan Brady and Joe Schaufenbuel have speeded the transition to electronic reporting of our sightings and integrating all of that with eBird. That's why the WSO board has for the last two years underwritten the \$1,500 annual cost of maintaining the Wisconsin portal to eBird and is urging members to financially support that effort.

And speaking of the future, I have to put on my other hat long enough to ask you each one question:

Do you live in a Bird City Wisconsin yet? And if not, what are you doing to make that happen?

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Schwartz". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name "President".

President



Rough-legged Hawk captured in flight by Stephen Fisher

It's the Interaction that Counts

It is time again for thanking a President of WSO as his term ends. It does not seem as if two years have passed since Tom Schultz took the leadership position of our "Society." In his own quiet, thoughtful, and considerate way, Tom was most effective in getting the work of WSO accomplished. He managed to handle numerous activities and issues in a timely and successful manner, while continuing to serve as the Field Trips Co-Chair with Jeff Baughman. And we hope he still had some time available to paint.

It has been a pleasure serving on the WSO board during Tom's tenure as our President. Thank you, Tom, for the dedication to WSO that you have expressed in your many years of quality service to the Society. And happily for all of us, you will still be on the board as Co-chair for Field Trips. It is nice not to have to say "good-bye," but just a heartfelt "well-done."

Tom is the fifth President of WSO whom Neil and I have thanked for their service to WSO since we became the editors of this journal. From our point of view, Neil and I would go with Carl Schwartz's third definition of "society" in his first President's Statement: *An enduring and cooperating **social** group whose members have developed organized patterns of relationships through interaction with one another.* It is those organized patterns of relationships that have sustained WSO when talented and dedicated board members leave us—either because their term ended, personal circumstances forced them to retire, or even death took them. The enduring and cooperating nature of WSO always comes through—someone volunteers to take on whatever the task is.

I've been around long enough to know that the operations of some state ornithological groups do not always flow this smoothly; all of you as members should be very proud of the quality of individuals that have served WSO—past and present.

Neil and I are delighted to welcome Carl Schwartz as the new President of WSO, confident in the knowledge that he will continue the high standards of those who served before him and keep our Society enduring well into the future.

Bettie and Neil Harriman, Editors

Corrigendum: The picture in 74(2), p. 196, is mislabelled. It is a Rough-legged Hawk. We regret the error.



American Golden-Plover photographed by Bob Larsen

The 2011 Wisconsin Christmas Bird Counts

Robert C. Domagalski

*PO Box 396
St. Nazianz, Wisconsin 54232
920. 881. 4002
rcd2@new.rr.com*

Wisconsin entered the month of December with many inland lakes of any size open and with little if any snow. These mild, dry conditions continued through the count period, making for the first warm count since 2006. This was in sharp contrast to the Count of 2010, which was snow filled and cold. Although the weather in these two count years was very different, the number of counts and the number of party hours were nearly identical. The same 107 circles that entered data in 2010 were the same circles that entered data for 2011. Even the number of field party hours for these two years was close to identical. In 2010, a record-setting 4,637.5 field hours were compiled. The 2011 total was just 3 hours short of this record with 4,634.5 hours. With the same areas covered these last two years and with the same base of field party hours, these two count years give us the best example ever for the variation in bird species and numbers between cold winters and warm winters. The rule of thumb for warm counts is that there are more species (especially water related species), while the total numbers for permanent residence are

less than normal. This is mainly because land species are more scattered, more difficult to notice due to not having a white background, and do not have the urgency to come to feeders. This rule of thumb proved true for 2011. To illustrate the change in numbers from cold years to warm years, there follows a list (A) of common residents, their numbers in the cold year of 2010 and their numbers in the warm year of 2011, followed by the percentage of decrease.

There were 153 species found on count days in 2011. This compares to 142 in the cold count of 2010. The only years with more species were in the warm counts of 2002 (154), 2004 (154), and 2006 (156). Although there were 19 Northern Bobwhite reported from 2 circles, I felt all the individuals reported were of released birds and thus not countable. Sadly, it seems Wisconsin's native stock of Bobwhite have been nearly eliminated. A contributing factor this year might have been the mild weather and lack of snow, which made finding this elusive species even more difficult. There were an additional three count week species. Those three were Sanderling

A. A list of common residents with their totals from the cold count of 2010 contrasted with their totals from the warm count of 2011.

Species	2010	2011	%decrease
Red-bellied Woodpecker	2,869	2,682	-6.5%
Downy Woodpecker	5,827	4,884	-16.2%
Hairy Woodpecker	2,365	2,012	-14.9%
Black-capped Chickadee	31,258	28,122	-10.0%
Tufted Titmouse	987	876	-11.2%
White-breasted Nuthatch	6,195	5,928	-4.3%
Northern Cardinal	10,931	7,588	-30.6%

(Racine), Common Yellowthroat (Milwaukee), and Yellow-throated Warbler (Two Rivers). The Sanderling and the Yellow-throated Warbler were new to the list of Christmas Count species, they being birds number 234 and 235 found on count days or count weeks. Of these 235, only these two new birds plus the Hooded Oriole (from 2004 in La Crosse) are count week only species. Many of this year’s major misses came from the grouping “Partridge through Quail.” Besides the Northern Bobwhite, the Gray Partridge was not found for the first time since 1945, the Sharp-tailed Grouse had its third miss in the last four years, and the Greater Prairie-Chicken had its first miss since 1982.

**LOCATION AND DETAILS
OF THE COUNTS**

The details of weather and participation for each count are reported in Table 1. There were 106 counts conducted in 2011. This compares to 107 in 2010. This 106 is second only to the 107 of 2010. All 106 reports received are from counts that were also conducted in 2010. The one missing count was La Farge. The La Farge Count was worked but had too few

party hours to be valid. This is now the second consecutive year in which all counts from the previous year were worked and the information collected. This is an unprecedented achievement and I would like to thank the many faithful compilers who have made this possible. For better than 20 years the WSO has tried to have all count circles named after a community that exists within the circle. The reason for this is that, for people unfamiliar with the state, they might look at a somewhat detailed map of the state and, from that, be able to find the location of each count. Some counts have been named after nature centers or geographical features. Some such names still exist because they have been granted grandfather status. I am pleased to say that Bernie Brouchoud and Jim Knickelbine (the compilers for the various Woodland Dunes counts) have given permission to use community names rather than the name of their nature center for their four counts. Thus the Woodland Dunes NE Count becomes the Two Rivers Count, the Woodland Dunes NW Count becomes the Menchalville Count, the Woodland Dunes SE Count becomes the Manitowoc Count, and the Woodland Dunes SW

Table 1. Details of the 2010–2011 Christmas Bird Counts.

Name of Count	Date	Sky	Snow Inches	Wind Dir.	Wind mph.	Temp. °F		Observers		Parties	Party Hours	Owling Hours
						Low	High	Feeder	Field			
Antigo (35)	12/17	Cloudy-Lt.Snow	2	NW	10	13	23	1	7	4	21.00	0.00
Appleton (67)	12/17	Cloudy	0	WSW	0–10	19	28	13	26	17	108.00	3.00
Armstrong Creek (16)	12/29	Cloudy-Lt.Snow	1–2	SE	1–4	15	20	5	7	4	28.00	0.00
Arpin (38)	12/17	PCL-Cloudy	Trace	SW	0–10	11	28	3	8	4	26.50	5.50
Ashland (3)	12/17	PCL-Cloudy	0	SW	0–15	11	30	0	7	4	36.00	0.00
Baraboo (99)	12/27	Clear-Cloudy	Trace	SW-NW	10–30	29	40	27	28	14	101.75	10.25
Bayfield (2)	12/27	Cloudy	Trace	N	4–12	23	26	7	12	6	34.50	0.00
Beloit (95)	12/17	Partly Cloudy	1	?	0–5	26	28	3	23	13	53.25	3.50
Birchwood (5)	12/31	Cloudy	2	?	5–10	22	27	11	3	2	9.00	0.00
Black River Falls (30)	12/17	Cloudy	1	N	5–10	10	30	2	5	2	11.75	1.25
Blanchardville (97)	12/19	Clear-Cloudy	0–2	N	5–15	27	40	0	9	5	33.50	7.25
Bridgeport (104)	12/16	Clear	0	NW	3–5	13	35	1	10	8	42.00	3.00
Brodhead (96)	12/15	Cloudy	0	W	10–20	30	43	0	8	6	33.00	2.50
Brussels (51)	12/18	Partly Cloudy	0	WSW	5–18	28	39	6	15	5	34.00	1.50
Burlington (79)	12/15	Cloudy	0	W	15–27	30	45	0	7	4	27.25	4.50
Cable (7)	12/17	Cloudy	?	W	3–4	1	28	7	16	6	16.50	0.00
Caroline (46)	12/17	Clear-Cloudy	0–1	?	0–5	19	27	2	4	4	28.00	2.75
Cassville (105)	1/5	Clear	?	?	?	33	44	1	10	5	29.75	3.50
Cedar Grove (59)	12/15	Cloudy	0	W	10–30	33	44	0	11	5	37.75	3.50
Chippewa Falls (23)	12/23	Cloudy	Trace	NW	1–12	17	28	0	17	6	34.25	0.00
Clam Lake (8)	12/22	PCL-Cloudy	3–4	NW	0–10	14	26	1	8	6	48.00	5.00
Clyde (100)	12/28	Cloudy-PCL	Trace	SW	5–10	17	32	0	15	5	44.00	6.25
Collins (72)	12/17	Cloudy	0	SW	5	18	27	1	9	6	21.50	0.00
Columbus (88)	12/16	Clear	0	?	0–5	20	31	0	11	5	28.50	0.00
Cooksville (94)	1/1	PCL-Cloudy	0	NW	25	28	31	0	12	6	37.00	1.00
Dundee (74)	12/29	Cloudy-PCL	0	WSW-N	0–5	28	39	1	8	5	22.00	3.00
Durand (22)	12/26	Clear	Trace	NW	0–12	30	44	0	17	7	41.25	0.50
Ephraim (53)	12/17	Cloudy	0	NE-SW	0–10	18	39	14	14	9	72.00	0.50
Fifield (9)	12/17	Cloudy-Lt. Snow	2	NW	0–5	7	24	21	6	4	22.50	0.00
Florence (15)	12/30	Partly Cloudy	1–2	NW	1–4	10	30	17	6	5	23.75	0.50
Fond du Lac (69)	12/17	Partly Cloudy	0	WSW	1–2	20	28	0	8	6	37.00	6.50
Fort Atkinson (93)	12/17	Cloudy	1	NW	10–15	22	31	17	15	5	18.00	1.50
Fremont (43)	12/18	Clear	0	SW	3–15	17	41	0	11	6	39.75	0.50
Friendship (41)	1/2	Cloudy-PCL	1	NW	10–20	7	20	1	14	6	31.75	1.00

(Continued)

Table 1. (Continued).

Name of Count	Date	Sky	Snow Inches	Wind Dir.	Wind mph.	Temp. °F		Observers			Party Hours	Owling Hours
						Low	High	Feeder	Field	Parties		
Gilman (25)	1/1	Cloudy	0	NW	20-30	23	29	3	13	6	44.50	0.50
Grantsburg (17)	12/17	Cloudy-Clear	0	NW-SW	8-18	17	33	0	12	6	35.25	3.00
Green Bay (49)	12/17	Cloudy	0	W	2-5	19	29	14	25	13	78.00	14.00
Green Lake (82)	12/31	Clear-Cloudy	Trace	S	5-15	16	32	1	11	6	38.75	4.50
Gurney (4)	12/17	Clear-Cloudy	4	S-SW	10	10	22	2	8	4	16.00	0.00
Hales Corners (62)	12/17	PCL-Cloudy	Trace	W	13	24	32	5	34	13	33.00	2.00
Hartford (75)	12/28	Cloudy-Clear	0	W	5	12	28	5	23	10	71.50	3.75
Hayward (6)	12/17	Cloudy	?	W	3-5	1	28	7	10	5	15.50	0.00
Herbster (1)	12/18	Partly Cloudy	2	S	4-12	28	44	14	8	4	13.50	0.00
Holcombe (24)	12/19	Cloudy	Trace	E	0-12	14	23	0	12	6	36.00	0.00
Horicon (86)	12/19	Clear-Cloudy	0	SW-NW	5-15	29	38	0	7	7	38.50	1.50
Hudson (20)	1/1	Cloudy	1-2	W-NW	15-24	27	28	0	7	4	18.25	0.00
Hustisford (87)	12/20	Partly Cloudy	0	W	5-10	23	40	0	11	7	42.50	3.00
Kenosha (64)	12/22	Cloudy	0	NW	10-15	32	35	2	7	5	19.25	1.00
Kewaunee (55)	12/31	Cloudy	0	SE	7-14	28	37	0	14	8	44.00	3.00
Kickapoo Valley (102)	12/18	Clear	0-1	SE-SW	3-12	19	41	0	12	7	38.00	1.00
La Crosse (32)	12/17	Cloudy	1	S	0-5	19	32	46	40	25	103.50	5.00
Lake Geneva (80)	1/1	Cloudy-Lt.Snow	Trace	NW	20-25	17	36	18	24	12	50.50	1.50
Lakewood (33)	12/28	Partly Cloudy	1	SW-SE	1-4	12	18	2	8	4	29.00	0.00
Luck (18)	12/18	Clear	Trace	S	5-10	14	43	2	17	6	42.00	2.75
Madison (91)	12/17	Cloudy	0	SSW	0-13	24	32	14	97	52	248.00	14.25
Manitowish Waters (10)	12/17	Clear-Cloudy	4	NW	2-6	6	28	8	11	5	32.50	0.00
Manitowoc (57)	12/18	Partly Cloudy	0	W-SW	5-10	25	34	3	9	5	36.50	0.75
Meadow Valley (39)	12/21	Cloudy-PCL	0	SW	0-5	28	40	0	8	6	42.00	5.00
Medford (26)	12/31	Partly Cloudy	0.5	E	2-8	21	30	6	17	7	45.75	1.00
Menchalville (71)	12/31	Cloudy	0	W	5-10	27	28	0	9	6	29.25	0.00
Milwaukee (61)	12/17	PCL-Cloudy	0.5	W	10	32	?	4	47	20	102.00	1.00
Minocqua (11)	12/29	Cloudy-Snow	4	Calm	0	21	29	6	10	7	32.50	0.50
Montello (83)	12/16	Clear	0	NW-SW	5-10	15	34	8	12	6	40.00	4.50
Mount Horeb (98)	1/1	Cloudy	0	NW	20-30	22	30	14	35	20	82.00	0.00
Nelson (21)	1/2	PCL-Clear	1-2	NW	15-35	18	22	0	33	11	50.00	0.75
New Franken (50)	12/18	Clear	0	SW	5-10	15	25	30	26	19	38.75	5.00
New Richmond (19)	12/17	Cloudy	0	SW-W	5-13	17	32	0	10	4	23.50	0.50
Norske (45)	12/15	Cloudy-Rain	0-1	SW-NW	0-5	32	40	3	5	4	26.00	2.00
Oconomowoc (76)	12/29	Clear-PCL	0	SW	5-15	32	42	4	13	6	36.00	1.00
Oshkosh (68)	12/17	Cloudy	Trace	SW	4-8	19	29	8	12	7	44.25	0.00
Owen (27)	12/14	Cloudy-Rain	2	E-SE	4-6	34	36	4	13	6	45.25	1.25
Palmyra (78)	12/26	Clear-PCL	0	SSW	6-20	24	41	4	29	12	82.00	12.00
Pardeeville (84)	12/15	Cloudy	0	W-NW	5-35	30	49	12	17	9	47.75	2.00
Pensaukee (66)	12/18	Partly Cloudy	0	S-W	5-12	24	36	1	2	2	17.00	1.00
Peshigo (65)	12/17	Clear-Cloudy	0	WSW	0-15	14	29	0	5	4	27.50	0.50
Phelps (12)	12/17	Cloudy-Lt. Snow	3	SW	10	-1	22	2	8	4	26.00	1.00
Platteville (106)	12/16	Clear	0	NW-W	5-10	21	32	0	2	1	9.00	2.00
Plymouth (73)	12/17	PCL-Cloudy	0	NE	5-10	23	30	0	19	8	36.00	0.00
Poynette (89)	12/26	Clear-PCL	Trace	SW	15-25	25	40	17	22	9	53.00	0.25
Racine (63)	12/17	Cloudy	Trace	SW	0-9	22	30	6	16	9	54.75	5.00
Randolph (85)	12/14	Cloudy-Rain	0	SW	5-15	36	42	1	14	7	42.00	0.00
Retreat (103)	12/22	Partly Cloudy	1	Calm	0-3	23	32	1	11	7	47.75	1.50
Rhineland (14)	12/17	Clear-Cloudy	0-4	SW	0-10	3	24	28	3	3	27.00	7.00
Richland Center (101)	12/17	Cloudy	2	SW	0-5	8	20	2	46	21	97.00	6.00
Riveredge (60)	12/17	Clear-Cloudy	Trace	W-NW	2-9	25	31	27	79	23	158.75	23.75
Rosendale (81)	12/16	PCL-Clear	0	W-NW	5-12	23	30	0	8	5	36.00	2.25
Sauk City (90)	12/31	Cloudy	0	S	10	21	40	0	33	15	104.00	7.50
Shawano (47)	12/17	Clear	0	?	?	11	20	19	6	3	18.00	0.00
Sheboygan (58)	12/31	Clear	0	SW	0-10	28	38	0	5	3	22.00	1.50
Shiocton (48)	12/16	Cloudy-PCL	0	NW	0-2	27	28	2	14	7	32.75	0.50
Spencer (28)	12/18	Clear	0-2	S-SW	5-15	19	44	1	14	8	68.25	4.25
Stevens Point (37)	12/17	Clear-Cloudy	0	NE	5-15	17	28	6	42	8	60.50	4.00
Stockbridge (70)	12/17	Clear	0	SW	0-10	24	39	2	12	5	35.50	1.00
Sturgeon Bay (52)	12/17	Cloudy	0	W	5-15	14	29	19	20	8	49.75	2.00
Summit Lake (34)	12/20	Cloudy	5	S	0-10	22	30	0	4	3	26.50	5.50
Three Lakes (13)	12/18	Cloudy-PCL	3	SW	0-10	23	35	0	7	4	20.00	0.00
Trempealeau (31)	12/18	Clear	0-1	SW-SE	10-20	18	33	7	19	9	45.75	1.75
Two Rivers (56)	1/1	Cloudy-Snow	0	W	25-30	20	37	7	17	10	45.25	0.00
Washington Island (54)	12/17	Clear-Cloudy	0	SW-W	5-10	12	25	11	8	4	18.00	0.00
Waterloo (92)	12/14	Cloudy-Rain	0	S	0-5	40	46	6	20	10	68.00	2.50
Waukesha (77)	12/17	Clear-Cloudy	1	WSW	0-10	22	31	4	26	8	53.75	3.00
Waupaca (44)	12/20	Clear-Cloudy	0	SW	0-10	25	34	2	7	6	47.00	3.50
Wausau (36)	12/17	Clear-Cloudy	Trace	NW	0-15	12	23	4	16	8	50.00	1.50
Wautoma (42)	12/30	Cloudy	0	NE	0-17	20	31	15	9	5	35.50	4.25
Willard (29)	12/28	Cloudy	0-2	S	5-10	6	25	3	9	5	44.00	1.25
Wisconsin Rapids (40)	12/17	PCL-Cloudy	0	SW	5-8	18	27	6	12	7	34.00	0.00
TOTAL								610	1,638	814	4,634.50	270.50

Bold lettering within a count indicates the highest totals for the state.

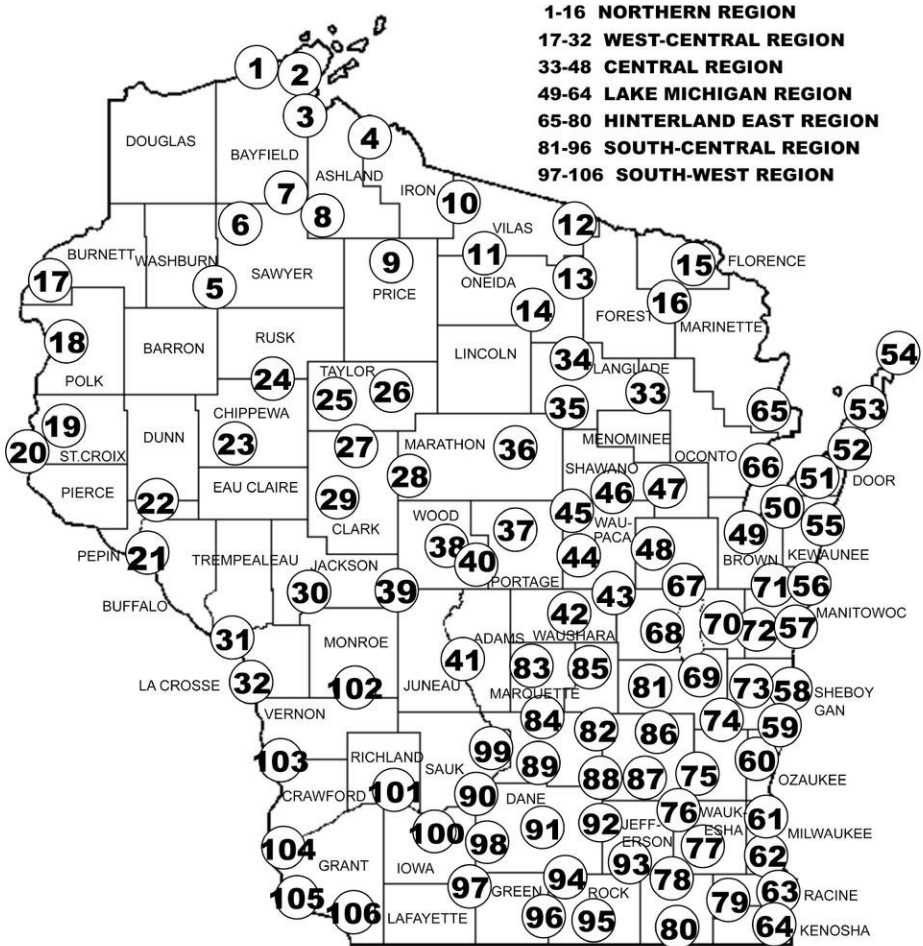


Figure 1. Map showing count circles.

Count becomes the Collins Count. Also, what had been called the Northern Kettle Moraine Count now becomes the Dundee Count.

As is customary, Madison led the state in the number of species with 93. Madison is the only circle to have ever had 90 or more species. Their record high was 95 in 1997. Other counts with 70 or more species were Appleton (84), Milwaukee (81), Riveredge (76), and Palmyra (70). The number

of field participants was a record high of 1,638. This is 112 above the previous high of 1,526 in 2009. This also marks the third consecutive count with better than 1,500 participants. The number of field parties was a record high of 814. The old record had been 794 in 2010. The number of field party hours was just 3 hours shy of the record of 4,637.5 in 2010.

The location of each count circle is shown in Figure 1. Count names can

be matched with count numbers by looking at the alphabetical listing of counts in the first column of Table 1. Data from counts that include areas in other states show only the species and participation for the Wisconsin portion of the count. For details on count compilers and count centers, visit the Appendix.

SUMMARY OF SPECIES

Results from the 2011 counts are reported in Tables 2–9. Tables 2–8 show the more common species, while Table 9 shows the less common species (species seen on 17 or fewer counts). The common species have their counts divided into seven regions, each region having its own table. Table 8 includes the statewide number of individuals found for each common species and compares that total with the average total (adjusted for party hours) over the past 10 years.

Geese and Swans—As can be expected in mild winters, geese remained in large numbers. The number of Canada Geese was the highest since the mild count of 2004. The 215,937 was a strong contrast to the 41,066 found in the snow filled count of 2010. The Cackling Goose (829 over 27 counts) was found in record highs for both individuals and counts. The previous highs had been 252 over 15 counts in 2006. A Greater White-fronted Goose was found at Madison. The Tundra Swan (4,623 over 21 counts) was 154% above its 10-year average. The only year with better numbers was 2001 with 7,714 over 25 counts. The Trumpeter Swan (484 over 18 counts) was record high in both individuals and counts. The

old high for individuals had been 460 in 2008.

Ducks—Although mild years should equate to high duck numbers, such was not the case in all cases. The most numerous duck, the Mallard, was 14% below its average, while the American Back Duck continued its plunging numbers by being 29% below average. Less common puddle ducks fared better. The Northern Shoveler, Green-winged Teal, Canvasback, and Ring-necked Duck all had their best numbers since the warm count of 2001. In 2010 the Greater Scaup was 41% below its 10-year average, while the Lesser Scaup was 75% below that average. In 2011 both species made major reversals. The Greater Scaup (30,584 over 21 counts) was 147% above its average and was record high in both counts and individuals. The 30,584 individuals were 54% greater than the previous high of 19,826 in 2003. In the 72 year history of the CBCs, only twice were there even half as many Greater Scaup as were found in 2011. The 22 counts finding Lesser Scaup were record high (the old high being 19 in 2001), while the 942 individuals were second only to 1,154 in 1998. In the four count years of 2007 through 2010, the only Harlequin Duck in the state was found at Sheboygan. This year, there was no Harlequin at Sheboygan but there were 2 in Milwaukee and 1 at Pensaukee. All three Scoter species had a fantastic year. This was mainly due to the finds in the Cedar Grove Circle. In 2010 there were no Surf Scoters found for the CBCs. In 2011 there was a record high of 35. Of these, 26 were found at Cedar Grove. This single circle number was twice the previous statewide high of 13 set in 2003. Of the 23

Table 2. Number of each species in northern Wisconsin found on 18 or more counts.

Species	Herb-ster 1	Bay-field 2	Ash-land 3	Gurney 4	Birch-wood 5	Hay-ward 6	Cable 7	Clam Lake 8	Fi-field 9	Manit-owish Waters 10	Minoc-qua 11	Phelps 12	Three Lakes 13	Rhine-lander 14	Flor-ence 15	Arm-strong Creek 16	Region Totals
Cackling Goose	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canada Goose	0	0	5	1	CW	132	12	15	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	190
Trumpeter Swan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
Tundra Swan	0	0	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41
American Black Duck	0	1	5	0	CW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Mallard	0	19	50	0	CW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	0	0	96
Greater Scaup	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Lesser Scaup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bufflehead	0	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Common Goldeneye	1	101	113	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	216
Hooded Merganser	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Common Merganser	1	31	131	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	163
Red-breasted Merganser	0	5	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Ring-necked Pheasant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	CW	0	3	3
Ruffed Grouse	5	3	3	11	0	4	24	24	15	9	0	1	2	3	5	8	117
Wild Turkey	24	27	32	72	0	4	38	18	100	50	12	38	22	101	173	113	824
Bald Eagle	15	10	13	10	4	4	5	1	6	10	19	2	3	14	14	7	137
Northern Harrier	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sharp-shinned Hawk	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cooper's Hawk	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
Red-tailed Hawk	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	7
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	6	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	8	22
American Kestrel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
American Coot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ring-billed Gull	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Herring Gull	555	110	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	686
Rock Pigeon	0	0	178	0	1	0	1	0	92	0	7	23	3	171	134	27	637
Mourning Dove	29	29	64	55	5	21	6	0	110	27	64	3	5	201	267	93	979
Eastern Screech-Owl	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Horned Owl	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	CW	0	0	1	CW	0	2
Barred Owl	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	4
Belted Kingfisher	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Red-headed Woodpecker	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Red-bellied Woodpecker	0	2	1	0	12	1	0	0	4	1	11	0	1	5	6	1	45
Downy Woodpecker	17	22	10	14	17	9	33	11	45	24	14	9	11	38	36	25	335
Hairy Woodpecker	6	12	6	5	11	9	40	10	36	27	21	5	1	34	22	15	260
Northern Flicker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pileated Woodpecker	5	9	7	5	8	2	2	5	6	4	15	6	7	18	9	3	111
Northern Shrike	1	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	13
Blue Jay	47	37	26	41	78	56	34	12	84	37	16	35	12	35	59	21	630
American Crow	85	207	425	44	46	92	37	80	140	24	85	93	60	62	131	112	1723
Common Raven	18	25	9	62	10	25	38	49	30	26	16	38	14	10	61	59	490
Horned Lark	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black-capped Chickadee	169	217	214	158	65	124	244	246	546	348	309	213	152	482	618	377	4482
Tufted Titmouse	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Red-breasted Nuthatch	41	38	25	12	3	10	40	20	48	60	54	48	36	55	49	29	568
White-breasted Nuthatch	19	20	7	8	20	25	21	12	32	53	45	15	12	52	51	22	414
Brown Creeper	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	6	3	6	5	1	1	4	0	2	30
Golden-crowned Kinglet	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	25	0	1	0	0	10	0	5	4	47
Eastern Bluebird	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
American Robin	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
European Starling	99	336	463	30	0	14	0	0	176	0	5	8	72	39	195	129	1566
Cedar Waxwing	0	0	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	51
Lapland Longspur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Snow Bunting	0	0	0	29	150	111	0	0	0	0	60	0	63	232	0	121	766
American Tree Sparrow	0	0	0	0	CW	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	2	0	6
Song Sparrow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dark-eyed Junco	0	14	6	2	0	28	0	0	6	0	0	0	1	6	2	1	66
Northern Cardinal	2	8	5	0	0	14	1	0	10	0	1	0	0	7	2	0	50
Red-winged Blackbird	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brown-headed Cowbird	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Purple Finch	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	6	0	0	2	0	5	0	1	19
House Finch	0	3	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	27
White-winged Crossbill	4	26	10	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	4	0	0	20	9	85
Common Redpoll	5	50	9	136	136	2	0	557	24	33	5	112	106	81	109	69	1434
Pine Siskin	16	313	0	0	0	22	1	50	111	0	21	1	0	4	2	3	544
American Goldfinch	135	75	76	117	94	104	61	81	300	110	161	137	44	111	186	76	1868
House Sparrow	7	42	15	19	13	0	0	0	0	0	9	17	0	38	55	42	257
Total Species	27	40	45	23	18	25	20	26	29	24	23	27	26	34	34	33	

CW = Found within 3 days of the count day but not on the day of the count. **Bold lettering** within the counts indicates counts having the highest totals for the state.

Table 3. Number of each species in west-central Wisconsin found on 18 or more counts.

Species	Grants- burg 17	Luck 18	New Rich- mond 19	Hud- son 20	Nel- son 21	Durand 22	Chip- pewa Falls 23	Hol- combe 24	Gilman 25	Med- ford 26	Owen 27	Spencer 28	Will- ard 29	Black River Falls 30	Trem- pealeau 31	La Crosse 32	Region Totals
Cackling Goose	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canada Goose	671	1001	2159	1656	1	9	2683	273	0	6	0	0	0	0	92	189	8740
Trumpeter Swan	8	14	171	179	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	387
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	21
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	CW	2	6
Mallard	11	0	228	394	573	0	39	0	0	201	0	0	0	0	137	590	2173
Greater Scaup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lesser Scaup	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Bufflehead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Common Goldeneye	0	0	0	1	50	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	99
Hooded Merganser	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Common Merganser	0	0	0	2293	65	43	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	CW	72	2475
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ring-necked Pheasant	4	12	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	0	2	3	1	1	1	1	31
Ruffed Grouse	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	6	13	8	3	1	0	0	0	36
Wild Turkey	0	22	136	0	136	19	82	154	125	82	43	42	208	25	25	134	1233
Bald Eagle	18	18	8	36	137	57	6	26	5	10	7	13	19	3	61	298	722
Northern Harrier	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	CW	8
Sharp-shinned Hawk	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	2	6	17
Cooper's Hawk	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	11
Red-tailed Hawk	12	17	15	9	35	27	7	1	1	9	8	21	16	4	31	58	271
Rough-legged Hawk	18	1	0	0	1	7	2	4	11	8	0	5	15	3	3	1	79
American Kestrel	1	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	1	1	6	11	0	1	4	5	36
American Coot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ring-billed Gull	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	CW	3	3
Herring Gull	0	0	0	17	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Rock Pigeon	122	241	251	155	449	537	456	650	136	488	675	844	294	77	538	1464	7377
Mourning Dove	3	21	30	9	5	2	108	26	52	206	212	330	62	11	38	485	1600
Eastern Screech-Owl	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Great Horned Owl	0	0	2	CW	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	3	3	0	1	11	26
Barred Owl	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	CW	1	6	12
Belted Kingfisher	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	8	19
Red-headed Woodpecker	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	1	0	14
Red-bellied Woodpecker	8	22	10	7	57	6	21	8	6	10	13	14	21	8	23	83	317
Downy Woodpecker	26	36	10	14	72	34	44	31	25	31	35	29	44	7	46	187	671
Hairy Woodpecker	15	23	2	1	30	6	15	17	22	14	16	23	14	2	17	56	273
Northern Flicker	0	0	CW	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	3	4	12
Pileated Woodpecker	4	9	4	3	8	3	4	6	3	4	1	5	4	3	10	12	83
Northern Shrike	2	7	5	0	4	3	4	6	7	14	9	10	5	0	2	2	80
Blue Jay	45	89	79	23	151	55	137	104	36	48	163	154	211	37	121	203	1656
American Crow	222	334	374	345	850	911	619	423	250	537	394	690	868	102	510	1225	8654
Common Raven	15	8	0	0	1	0	3	7	48	12	6	3	7	0	0	0	110
Horned Lark	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	12	39
Black-capped Chickadee	159	235	101	73	286	185	268	310	381	696	408	418	366	53	163	633	4735
Tufted Titmouse	0	0	0	1	6	9	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	16	105	150
Red-breasted Nuthatch	10	15	0	1	1	3	6	5	14	23	6	6	13	2	9	6	120
White-breasted Nuthatch	39	106	13	12	80	26	38	42	24	70	48	78	67	8	44	209	904
Brown Creeper	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	28	40
Golden-crowned Kinglet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	3	2	0	0	0	15
Eastern Bluebird	0	0	0	4	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	10	22	43
American Robin	18	3	333	244	0	162	0	0	0	9	7	1	5	0	84	53	919
European Starling	189	654	205	118	181	1089	665	1043	333	287	2290	2060	1147	16	1085	547	11,909
Cedar Waxwing	1	0	170	151	0	92	52	73	0	48	27	43	78	0	7	0	742
Lapland Longspur	0	0	0	0	140	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	140
Snow Bunting	3	0	0	24	111	0	2	115	127	595	238	535	15	0	0	13	1778
American Tree Sparrow	27	48	70	0	103	18	100	106	65	9	16	36	49	0	209	292	1148
Song Sparrow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Dark-eyed Junco	40	133	158	75	974	262	334	66	25	28	44	58	231	50	201	604	3283
Northern Cardinal	4	15	11	12	65	11	22	9	6	11	16	19	47	4	72	417	741
Red-winged Blackbird	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	115	115
Brown-headed Cowbird	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Purple Finch	0	1	2	8	30	5	12	26	15	7	5	13	15	2	9	30	180
House Finch	0	5	27	5	35	47	87	22	1	15	1	5	54	0	36	445	785
White-winged Crossbill	14	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	44	2	0	0	CW	71
Common Redpoll	21	33	0	0	0	0	58	68	349	575	36	63	149	0	CW	0	1352
Pine Siskin	0	4	0	0	0	6	44	0	44	165	0	41	41	10	9	30	394
American Goldfinch	125	75	85	40	338	103	381	162	439	348	261	214	397	48	147	518	3681
House Sparrow	65	241	16	99	581	240	240	146	225	187	484	708	495	1	252	1340	5320
Total Species	36	34	34	35	45	33	42	30	39	45	33	43	42	26	54	69	

CW = Found within 3 days of the count day but not on the day of the count. **Bold lettering** within the counts indicates counts having the highest totals for the state.

Table 4. Number of each species in central Wisconsin found on 18 or more counts.

Species	Lake wood 33	Summit Lake 34	Antigo 35	Wausau 36	Stevens Point 37	Arpin 38	Meadow Valley 39	Wisc. Rapids 40	Friend- ship 41	Wau- toma 42	Fre- mont 43	Wau- paca 44	Norske 45	Car- oline 46	Sha- wano 47	Shi- octon 48	Region Totals
Cackling Goose	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	68	0	0	0	0	0	128
Canada Goose	1	0	0	352	2014	CW	0	1641	81	2534	1131	2218	197	350	690	390	11,599
Trumpeter Swan	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	27
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
American Black Duck	0	0	0	15	3	0	0	4	0	1	3	2	0	2	2	2	34
Mallard	0	0	0	330	850	0	11	183	7	209	319	129	2	250	1166	9	3465
Greater Scaup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lesser Scaup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Bufflehead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	22
Common Goldeneye	0	0	0	0	190	0	0	185	36	0	2	0	0	1	4	0	418
Hooded Merganser	0	0	0	CW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Common Merganser	0	0	0	CW	2	0	0	4	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	15
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ring-necked Pheasant	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	4	5	15
Ruffed Grouse	15	12	21	1	0	1	11	2	0	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	68
Wild Turkey	239	5	88	50	68	327	25	237	0	240	179	201	246	35	197	173	2310
Bald Eagle	4	2	4	7	13	11	9	3	16	10	13	9	3	5	29	5	143
Northern Harrier	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	2	0	0	6	0	1	1	0	0	15
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	10
Cooper's Hawk	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	CW	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	1	10
Red-tailed Hawk	4	1	9	7	24	16	3	9	11	15	52	12	1	10	7	32	213
Rough-legged Hawk	4	1	7	1	4	5	11	11	7	4	15	2	6	7	3	5	93
American Kestrel	0	0	1	CW	0	3	0	0	0	0	13	0	1	6	4	13	41
American Coot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ring-billed Gull	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	2	0	0	0	14
Herring Gull	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	5
Rock Pigeon	33	112	178	123	422	535	0	11	94	200	880	378	70	192	213	837	4278
Mourning Dove	87	82	73	193	303	122	43	151	24	138	98	56	5	27	120	107	1629
Eastern Screech-Owl	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	6
Great Horned Owl	0	1	0	2	5	1	0	CW	0	3	2	1	1	1	3	3	23
Barred Owl	0	1	CW	0	8	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	1	18
Belted Kingfisher	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	1	2	0	1	1	0	11
Red-headed Woodpecker	0	0	0	CW	CW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Red-bellied Woodpecker	10	0	CW	16	31	5	6	13	17	24	17	18	4	1	8	20	190
Downy Woodpecker	36	2	5	26	88	14	21	23	29	35	29	30	2	8	42	50	440
Hairy Woodpecker	22	6	4	18	44	6	13	11	9	24	14	16	5	5	19	14	230
Northern Flicker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	2	2	0	3	1	13
Pileated Woodpecker	8	1	2	3	16	1	10	5	3	6	3	9	4	2	5	10	88
Northern Shrike	1	0	0	1	4	4	6	0	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	2	29
Blue Jay	80	8	13	69	292	85	88	89	104	154	116	56	11	13	82	135	1395
American Crow	341	138	170	363	499	330	82	189	311	752	472	350	316	189	178	293	4973
Common Raven	19	16	9	0	13	1	25	1	11	8	4	1	4	5	8	1	126
Horned Lark	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	20
Black-capped Chickadee	572	164	58	253	486	131	204	111	286	280	365	158	65	64	156	200	3553
Tufted Titmouse	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	7	3	1	8	0	0	0	0	25
Red-breasted Nuthatch	48	12	4	30	27	1	69	10	12	20	7	20	5	3	14	2	284
White-breasted Nuthatch	68	8	10	30	84	14	45	23	45	53	62	39	10	2	38	40	571
Brown Creeper	0	3	0	3	5	0	17	CW	5	4	3	4	5	1	0	2	52
Golden-crowned Kinglet	6	9	0	0	1	0	8	0	0	0	2	2	5	16	8	0	57
Eastern Bluebird	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	2	2	2	0	0	13
American Robin	3	0	0	CW	7	1	7	10	16	96	6	9	2	1	2	7	167
European Starling	51	466	110	138	246	534	17	12	64	1335	2306	224	423	275	515	1026	7742
Cedar Waxwing	158	0	20	65	226	19	39	66	350	240	78	100	5	223	45	37	1671
Lapand Longspur	0	0	0	0	150	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	160
Snow Bunting	601	0	455	331	6	CW	6	CW	0	4	0	0	0	100	0	40	1543
American Tree Sparrow	9	0	27	68	63	191	58	13	27	44	125	50	2	90	46	69	882
Song Sparrow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Dark-eyed Junco	11	14	31	136	366	106	34	86	298	318	185	128	56	88	149	219	2225
Northern Cardinal	7	0	0	41	109	20	3	22	33	39	31	17	6	5	48	43	424
Red-winged Blackbird	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	CW	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brown-headed Cowbird	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
Purple Finch	0	0	1	CW	20	12	40	2	12	32	8	11	9	0	2	15	164
House Finch	0	0	0	76	116	0	0	67	1	89	77	47	0	0	57	85	615
White-winged Crossbill	35	6	0	349	78	0	45	0	0	88	5	CW	0	0	0	0	606
Common Redpoll	313	67	203	26	91	23	13	0	55	0	1	0	0	25	19	0	836
Pine Siskin	75	0	47	248	172	15	85	95	20	346	88	115	27	90	164	32	1619
American Goldfinch	136	93	111	318	683	136	41	65	59	263	207	244	161	33	440	220	3210
House Sparrow	15	18	47	129	253	151	3	39	60	143	586	67	CW	82	126	212	1931
Total Species	36	28	27	42	49	34	36	43	40	47	56	44	40	47	49	42	

CW = Found within 3 days of the count day but not on the day of the count. **Bold lettering** within the counts indicates counts having the highest totals for the state.

Table 5. Number of each species along Lake Michigan in Wisconsin found on 18 or more counts.

Species	Green Bay 49	New Franken 50	Brus-sels 51	Stur-geon Bay 52	Eph-raim 53	Wash-ington Island 54	Ke-wau-nee 55	Two Rivers 56	Mani-towoc 57	She-boygan 58	Cedar Grove 59	River-edge 60	Mil-waukee 61	Hales Cor-ners 62	Racine 63	Keno-sha 64	Region Totals
Cackling Goose	11	0	0	CW	0	0	0	0	3	0	4	0	5	0	12	0	35
Canada Goose	11,859	952	435	6168	588	100	2205	632	977	2764	2011	2675	3660	2619	8466	3008	49,119
Trumpeter Swan	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Tundra Swan	217	12	166	227	24	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	668
American Black Duck	212	0	10	18	0	0	5	3	4	9	1	0	30	21	19	2	334
Mallard	4058	89	282	748	139	7	16	119	146	1019	119	463	1066	71	1332	227	9901
Greater Scaup	0	2000	75	45	11	1	282	136	1963	657	10,350	335	3342	2793	511	1	22,502
Lesser Scaup	2	151	0	0	0	0	CW	0	0	8	0	2	91	4	0	0	258
Bufflehead	0	261	16	72	74	10	8	24	29	65	96	32	240	185	58	25	1195
Common Goldeneye	69	220	185	70	140	46	222	81	341	79	395	15	589	470	200	58	3180
Hooded Merganser	6	10	0	5	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	5	6	0	0	0	35
Common Merganser	6754	182	286	519	126	6	36	57	11	79	3	35	154	130	392	2	8772
Red-breasted Merganser	506	9	149	101	34	20	34	33	221	31	285	26	1304	967	624	113	4457
Ring-necked Pheasant	0	28	1	2	0	3	6	2	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	47
Ruffed Grouse	0	0	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	10
Wild Turkey	257	157	359	295	390	35	51	118	42	19	57	278	76	4	8	0	2146
Bald Eagle	55	7	14	8	3	5	2	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	100
Northern Harrier	0	1	6	3	0	0	6	3	0	0	4	9	0	1	1	0	34
Sharp-shinned Hawk	0	2	0	CW	0	CW	0	1	0	0	0	4	3	1	2	0	13
Cooper's Hawk	6	8	2	2	0	0	0	2	1	1	3	10	11	9	9	4	68
Red-tailed Hawk	61	19	26	16	2	2	37	4	20	7	8	91	24	18	23	22	380
Rough-legged Hawk	0	2	24	26	5	CW	21	8	0	CW	0	6	CW	0	0	0	92
American Kestrel	13	11	13	2	0	0	7	4	6	5	16	28	0	3	4	2	114
American Coot	0	0	9	CW	0	CW	0	0	2	0	0	6	22	0	1	56	96
Ring-billed Gull	650	3	15	3	9	1	1	4	3	58	103	139	565	358	71	253	2236
Herring Gull	4153	115	94	100	0	100	428	370	194	262	16	19	3033	700	559	117	10,260
Rock Pigeon	423	193	350	448	0	CW	1069	160	256	199	448	1048	553	198	375	211	5931
Mourning Dove	296	210	124	151	36	42	78	99	62	96	13	432	183	132	620	194	2768
Eastern Screech-Owl	10	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	20	1	4	16	4	67
Great Horned Owl	12	3	1	3	1	0	9	1	6	4	0	21	7	10	9	3	90
Barred Owl	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	8
Belted Kingfisher	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	8	3	1	0	1	16
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	8
Red-bellied Woodpecker	44	39	18	27	9	7	13	12	11	9	7	119	48	36	24	7	430
Downy Woodpecker	81	102	20	25	11	10	24	26	21	14	21	231	143	44	37	18	828
Hairy Woodpecker	25	42	14	28	18	8	10	14	14	7	13	113	45	16	10	5	382
Northern Flicker	3	0	0	CW	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	13	1	1	3	0	24
Pileated Woodpecker	3	3	2	9	13	5	1	0	CW	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	44
Northern Shrike	2	CW	6	11	1	0	5	1	2	0	1	6	1	1	0	1	38
Blue Jay	71	101	27	113	26	17	65	28	23	10	16	227	28	27	35	4	818
American Crow	391	297	523	568	228	82	592	282	245	66	331	1063	282	71	203	103	5327
Common Raven	0	4	7	15	9	8	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52
Horned Lark	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	12	14	1	12	44	0	98
Black-capped Chickadee	312	199	139	339	136	80	164	137	220	50	41	1192	597	236	195	66	4103
Tufted Titmouse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	CW	0	0	0
Red-breasted Nuthatch	11	22	6	24	17	8	2	7	7	2	4	12	1	3	1	1	128
White-breasted Nuthatch	89	82	26	19	12	4	23	15	44	9	26	291	114	61	41	13	869
Brown Creeper	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	11	2	5	0	0	25
Golden-crowned Kinglet	0	0	5	3	6	2	1	3	3	0	1	3	4	3	2	0	36
Eastern Bluebird	4	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	19	1	3	0	53
American Robin	19	3	0	9	2	0	2	0	2	9	0	90	313	121	3	8	581
European Starling	819	1335	985	864	67	50	1311	30	1391	356	5500	5124	777	555	1220	575	20,959
Cedar Waxwing	146	23	6	447	62	CW	130	43	0	138	44	414	426	177	14	30	2100
Lapland Longspur	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	25
Snow Bunting	75	76	0	8	0	0	30	15	70	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	284
American Tree Sparrow	63	80	36	16	CW	1	7	19	8	20	28	74	87	26	141	90	696
Song Sparrow	0	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	5	0	20
Dark-eyed Junco	272	155	61	156	29	3	98	87	162	137	133	1002	448	142	240	99	3224
Northern Cardinal	85	114	31	50	20	14	9	48	33	33	27	349	275	138	179	20	1425
Red-winged Blackbird	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	350	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	352
Brown-headed Cowbird	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	7
Purple Finch	0	46	0	9	2	27	0	0	0	2	0	35	0	1	2	0	124
House Finch	165	143	28	46	0	8	75	47	92	21	73	297	314	134	133	46	1622
White-winged Crossbill	0	0	0	1	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	8	1	0	0	24
Common Redpoll	1	9	2	CW	32	1	0	2	2	0	0	3	11	36	0	0	99
Pine Siskin	5	7	0	40	17	20	12	98	27	32	0	112	13	4	8	2	397
American Goldfinch	308	293	157	220	104	73	249	127	167	95	41	666	477	112	199	47	3335
House Sparrow	695	179	75	91	CW	CW	322	118	554	146	345	1572	929	181	487	102	5796
Total Species	59	63	55	57	49	42	51	53	47	47	49	76	81	65	56	45	

CW = Found within 3 days of the count day but not on the day of the count. **Bold lettering** within the counts indicates counts having the highest totals for the state.

Table 6. Number of each species in hinterland east Wisconsin found on 18 or more counts.

Species	Pes- tigo 65	Pen- sau- kee 66	Apple- ton 67	Osh- kosh 68	Fond du Lac 69	Stock- bridge 70	Menchal- ville 71	Collins 72	Ply- mouth 73	Dundee 74	Hart- ford 75	Ocono- mowoc 76	Wauk- esha 77	Pal- myra 78	Bur- lington 79	Lake Geneva 80	Region Totals
Cackling Goose	0	0	57	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	13	1	18	0	0	98
Canada Goose	500	777	9486	2202	6521	0	0	1	1001	216	2346	3511	1617	3871	1276	1863	35,188
Trumpeter Swan	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	1	0	10
Tundra Swan	0	621	CW	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	118	0	7	764
American Black Duck	0	3	63	5	28	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	3	0	3	110
Mallard	12	209	2073	967	310	0	2	2	104	0	237	670	129	328	509	536	6088
Greater Scaup	0	6107	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6114
Lesser Scaup	0	225	9	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	273
Bufflehead	0	32	13	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	2	43	2	0	1	180	282
Common Goldeneye	4	4158	1410	10	45	0	0	0	0	0	7	26	12	37	17	311	6037
Hooded Merganser	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	16
Common Merganser	0	658	380	693	3725	0	0	0	0	30	306	40	8	1	0	86	5927
Red-breasted Merganser	0	16	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	34	30	0	0	0	87
Ring-necked Pheasant	0	7	1	3	CW	6	0	0	1	4	3	1	2	4	25	0	57
Ruffed Grouse	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Wild Turkey	51	26	59	102	62	73	203	54	161	164	489	31	258	78	1	189	2001
Bald Eagle	17	6	87	83	11	6	4	4	0	0	2	2	2	0	1	1	226
Northern Harrier	2	6	11	5	2	12	2	2	2	0	2	0	3	10	1	1	61
Sharp-shinned Hawk	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	3	1	11
Cooper's Hawk	1	1	8	8	3	1	2	1	4	2	6	2	3	1	0	1	44
Red-tailed Hawk	18	4	108	42	29	60	21	25	37	31	56	36	28	31	21	18	565
Rough-legged Hawk	22	10	15	2	1	30	2	6	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	4	97
American Kestrel	2	3	11	16	6	26	16	8	13	8	7	3	2	5	3	3	132
American Coot	0	0	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	510	1050	0	0	27	2050	3644
Ring-billed Gull	8	9	7	100	176	61	20	0	5	52	150	243	35	11	400	510	1787
Herring Gull	17	78	6259	2375	7449	55	29	6	6	6	37	9	3	3	46	146	16,524
Rock Pigeon	575	73	1749	367	501	585	243	399	312	370	808	324	142	247	203	35	6933
Mourning Dove	175	31	581	291	104	14	90	11	80	102	211	154	128	199	35	48	2254
Eastern Screech-Owl	0	CW	1	1	3	CW	0	1	0	1	3	0	7	6	2	0	25
Great Horned Owl	0	2	6	6	9	2	0	5	2	2	6	3	6	13	0	1	63
Barred Owl	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	4	0	CW	13
Belted Kingfisher	0	0	6	CW	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	5	8	6	1	32
Red-headed Woodpecker	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Red-bellied Woodpecker	18	6	47	31	22	13	8	12	22	21	54	18	28	39	6	16	361
Downy Woodpecker	25	9	90	50	33	31	21	29	36	35	128	37	36	51	13	38	662
Hairy Woodpecker	17	4	39	18	12	4	12	9	8	15	22	10	24	27	3	11	235
Northern Flicker	2	0	2	1	2	0	0	1	2	4	8	1	5	5	1	2	36
Pileated Woodpecker	9	4	3	0	0	CW	0	0	0	9	1	0	0	CW	0	0	26
Northern Shrike	4	3	4	2	0	3	2	2	0	7	3	1	5	1	2	0	39
Blue Jay	92	24	94	87	81	39	21	31	47	70	99	20	61	52	8	23	849
American Crow	262	22	984	208	476	268	241	167	391	407	677	252	362	756	451	275	6199
Common Raven	20	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
Horned Lark	0	0	0	3	0	50	0	0	75	10	78	98	0	5	0	66	385
Black-capped Chickadee	345	26	272	186	137	74	163	84	73	196	751	149	285	397	73	166	3377
Tufted Titmouse	0	0	2	4	0	3	0	0	0	1	4	2	9	9	0	9	43
Red-breasted Nuthatch	19	4	11	14	1	1	0	0	1	12	13	3	8	20	0	CW	107
White-breasted Nuthatch	24	8	104	52	40	20	37	28	19	50	132	41	63	119	15	34	786
Brown Creeper	0	2	8	8	0	0	1	3	0	2	2	2	0	6	2	2	38
Golden-crowned Kinglet	0	0	3	7	2	0	2	3	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	23
Eastern Bluebird	19	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	CW	5	0	14	6	CW	46
American Robin	0	2	91	106	7	0	0	0	1	0	1	37	178	45	32	0	500
European Starling	1532	101	1896	797	1018	1189	1454	586	476	1386	1108	732	383	1456	1032	313	15,459
Cedar Waxwing	59	3	173	166	38	6	67	0	50	117	350	3	100	109	51	94	1386
Lapland Longspur	11	0	0	0	0	8	70	0	0	51	CW	0	0	0	0	425	565
Snow Bunting	64	71	90	40	0	616	0	0	0	200	1	1	CW	1	0	1	1085
American Tree Sparrow	23	46	129	120	19	29	39	41	42	53	519	46	256	276	55	43	1736
Song Sparrow	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	3	16	3	9	39
Dark-eyed Junco	91	29	372	184	99	76	63	75	196	90	974	160	353	517	88	339	3706
Northern Cardinal	10	14	146	80	20	11	31	22	41	35	183	82	169	167	51	171	1233
Red-winged Blackbird	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	1	24	0	0	0	35
Brown-headed Cowbird	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	1	46
Purple Finch	4	14	5	8	0	0	4	0	0	7	13	2	14	23	0	15	109
House Finch	36	7	383	194	130	8	28	23	79	32	521	139	98	96	57	106	1937
White-winged Crossbill	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	4	17	0	0	43
Common Redpoll	20	26	1	2	5	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	41	104
Pine Siskin	12	13	36	19	68	4	8	14	31	145	260	7	26	49	28	103	823
American Goldfinch	268	74	250	111	133	21	88	281	171	158	412	185	116	182	33	294	2777
House Sparrow	310	31	701	1018	313	542	716	514	156	215	1110	347	162	204	122	273	6734
Species Total	44	61	84	61	60	37	37	36	33	46	63	55	56	70	50	54	

CW = Found within 3 days of the count day but not on the day of the count. **Bold lettering** within the counts indicates counts having the highest totals for the state.

Table 7. Number of each species in south-central Wisconsin found on 18 or more counts.

Species	Rosen- dale 81	Green Lake 82	Mon- tello 83	Pardee- ville 84	Ran- dolph 85	Horicon 86	Hustis- ford 87	Colum- bus 88	Poy- nette 89	Sauk City 90	Madi- son 91	Water- loo 92	Fort Atkinson 93	Cooks- ville 94	Beloit 95	Brod- head 96	Region Totals
Cackling Goose	2	3	7	30	4	0	4	5	0	0	65	33	0	360	5	0	518
Canada Goose	1257	2710	2312	1465	20,260	40,000	2343	248	2564	2545	12,751	2058	1389	7710	1393	840	101,845
Trumpeter Swan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tundra Swan	0	12	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	745	19	0	0	0	0	778
American Black Duck	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	1	1	3	33	4	0	50
Mallard	6	750	329	11	169	33	200	5	145	391	1925	199	329	2743	398	12	7644
Greater Scaup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lesser Scaup	0	50	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	339	3	6	0	0	0	399
Bufflehead	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	415	1	0	0	0	0	435
Common Goldeneye	0	504	1	18	13	0	0	0	20	16	726	443	76	17	71	1	1906
Hooded Merganser	0	15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73	8	0	0	1	0	98
Common Merganser	0	2382	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	52	510	5	0	23	3	0	2999
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	1	0	0	0	0	17
Ring-necked Pheasant	6	6	0	0	2	3	8	0	CW	15	2	9	4	CW	2	0	57
Ruffed Grouse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wild Turkey	32	242	118	330	52	96	238	8	196	230	282	156	169	81	302	214	2746
Bald Eagle	2	20	15	13	3	14	2	4	28	53	19	1	19	2	1	4	200
Northern Harrier	7	1	0	0	1	9	2	2	1	3	3	3	4	3	3	4	46
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	2	1	4	8	2	2	0	1	0	25
Cooper's Hawk	2	3	0	0	3	5	5	2	2	7	28	4	9	2	4	0	76
Red-tailed Hawk	30	24	43	35	26	30	55	32	47	63	156	37	42	32	58	29	739
Rough-legged Hawk	4	2	4	1	0	7	2	0	2	18	3	1	0	0	1	5	50
American Kestrel	19	5	3	5	8	22	18	9	4	21	9	10	6	12	16	11	178
American Coot	1	752	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4670	3225	79	0	0	0	8727
Ring-billed Gull	0	68	33	27	7	13	3	0	17	278	1484	31	5	2	23	11	2002
Herring Gull	0	244	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	47	844	2	60	9	21	0	1233
Rock Pigeon	330	285	338	125	600	547	810	277	282	713	919	262	302	215	599	175	6779
Mourning Dove	356	144	107	67	83	309	155	75	184	313	959	306	210	131	346	45	3790
Eastern Screech-owl	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	5	23	1	1	2	2	2	39
Great Horned Owl	1	20	2	0	0	2	1	0	4	5	16	1	3	3	4	0	62
Barred Owl	0	8	7	1	0	0	1	2	0	4	7	1	1	1	1	1	35
Belted Kingfisher	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	6	11	2	2	4	4	1	37
Red-headed Woodpecker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	21	41	24	39	28	3	43	22	42	98	181	46	49	8	29	24	698
Downy Woodpecker	39	65	69	55	56	19	80	17	78	166	289	59	115	32	42	30	1211
Hairy Woodpecker	20	15	22	17	10	1	16	2	27	55	91	10	42	6	14	9	357
Northern Flicker	2	7	7	6	4	0	4	2	0	10	25	7	0	4	4	4	86
Pileated Woodpecker	0	5	7	2	0	0	0	0	2	20	0	0	0	0	0	1	37
Northern Shrike	3	4	2	1	1	1	3	0	3	6	7	0	0	1	4	3	39
Blue Jay	100	155	148	97	166	28	130	64	137	274	262	133	67	18	74	19	1872
American Crow	190	412	678	1155	323	144	399	171	621	1127	1159	332	342	239	281	388	7961
Common Raven	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Horned Lark	2	5	5	0	0	0	9	13	35	3	11	1	58	174	329	52	697
Black-capped Chickadee	213	256	197	230	143	90	266	81	308	700	1289	346	291	68	122	119	4719
Tufted Titmouse	0	9	7	33	10	0	0	0	38	80	46	9	4	1	15	18	270
Red-breasted Nuthatch	5	17	20	1	0	1	3	0	8	2	15	8	9	0	0	1	90
White-breasted Nuthatch	49	97	67	72	49	17	82	25	96	181	307	63	103	27	21	30	1286
Brown Creeper	1	2	3	3	1	0	3	0	4	17	87	6	3	0	3	4	137
Golden-crowned Kinglet	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	13	4	0	0	0	0	22
Eastern Bluebird	3	21	3	23	9	0	0	0	56	105	13	6	3	0	10	28	280
American Robin	20	511	21	20	60	1	1	0	59	464	391	12	CW	1	30	0	1591
European Starling	721	949	486	820	3369	888	1772	1328	1137	2899	1838	1987	2631	1693	1447	3951	27,916
Cedar Waxwing	7	407	410	113	50	19	20	0	7	193	121	104	0	0	16	5	1472
Lapland Longspur	2	1	0	0	0	0	11	189	50	75	0	0	0	1	587	0	916
Snow Bunting	1	CW	0	1	11	21	0	153	3	0	0	0	0	3	2	14	209
American Tree Sparrow	194	82	51	68	423	137	475	85	157	594	747	400	88	38	342	99	3980
Song Sparrow	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	3	6	36	4	0	CW	7	6	67
Dark-eyed Junco	176	227	327	356	449	79	357	196	588	1100	1015	510	643	179	479	298	6979
Northern Cardinal	36	70	67	78	52	26	112	31	105	219	747	119	129	55	206	69	2121
Red-winged Blackbird	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	3	220	64	0	0	1	30	0	323
Brown-headed Cowbird	51	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	3	0	0	0	0	223	1	13	311
Purple Finch	12	46	39	12	0	0	5	0	7	14	2	2	26	0	0	3	168
House Finch	89	93	44	105	57	33	162	64	174	318	1067	238	132	134	63	109	2882
White-winged Crossbill	1	0	30	0	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37
Common Redpoll	14	29	1	0	0	0	0	0	19	14	1	0	0	0	1	1	80
Pine Siskin	0	29	110	CW	1	0	46	3	9	59	161	16	38	8	16	4	500
American Goldfinch	96	146	215	275	162	37	205	51	256	559	1130	356	374	221	108	391	4582
House Sparrow	678	72	39	368	909	575	1260	521	340	1024	2557	856	487	257	667	415	11,025
Total Species	46	64	53	44	44	37	50	32	58	63	93	64	47	53	62	47	

CW = Found within 3 days of the count day but not on the day of the count. **Bold lettering** within the counts indicates counts having the highest totals for the state.

Table 8. Number of each species in southwestern Wisconsin found on 18 or more counts.

Species	Blanchard- ville 97	Mount Horeb 98	Bara- boo 99	Clyde 100	Rich- land Center 101	Kicka- poo Valley 102	Re- treat 103	Bridge- port 104	Cass- ville 105	Platt- ville 106	Region Totals	Number of Counts	No. of Individ- uals	Percent Change
Cackling Goose	0	0	10	0	0	0	37	0	3	0	50	27	829	+549%
Canada Goose	19	158	4243	483	215	CW	417	1560	2159	2	9256	84	215,937	+13%
Trumpeter Swan	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	13	9	27	18	484	+58%
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	0	0	0	2000	62	49	240	2351	21	4623	+154%
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	14	0	0	18	46	558	-29%
Mallard	4	49	333	8	23	0	119	1059	29	178	1802	78	31,169	-14%
Greater Scaup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	30,584	+147%
Lesser Scaup	0	0	0	0	2	0	5	1	1	0	9	22	942	+118%
Bufflehead	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	23	33	1,971	-15%
Common Goldeneye	0	0	35	0	3	0	621	0	2	230	891	58	12,747	+13%
Hooded Merganser	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	20	155	-29%
Common Merganser	0	0	8	0	1	0	463	0	1	2	475	50	20,826	+133%
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	4,579	+72%
Ring-necked Pheasant	18	3	1	1	3	2	0	1	0	0	29	56	239	-68%
Ruffed Grouse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	237	-17%
Wild Turkey	171	188	47	190	741	68	23	88	23	2	1541	101	12,801	0%
Bald Eagle	10	10	66	29	65	21	355	143	148	7	854	97	2,382	+66%
Northern Harrier	5	5	2	0	6	2	1	0	1	0	22	55	186	+3%
Sharp-shinned Hawk	CW	1	4	1	6	1	1	1	2	0	17	49	94	-8%
Cooper's Hawk	4	3	4	2	6	1	0	4	2	0	26	64	238	-18%
Red-tailed Hawk	65	41	44	34	68	64	41	56	40	15	468	93	2,643	-5%
Rough-legged Hawk	1	6	6	6	22	3	12	6	1	1	64	77	497	-12%
American Kestrel	14	4	5	7	35	26	3	24	31	6	155	74	656	-6%
American Coot	0	0	0	0	0	0	170	0	0	0	170	19	12,637	+263%
Ring-billed Gull	0	0	0	4	19	0	9	69	0	4	105	55	6,149	-34%
Herring Gull	0	0	2	0	3	0	4	0	0	0	9	50	28,735	+25%
Rock Pigeon	131	252	244	78	1234	538	565	302	438	47	3829	97	35,764	-4%
Mourning Dove	89	78	131	84	1078	21	28	117	55	1	1682	105	14,702	-36%
Eastern Screech Owl	15	0	5	2	3	0	1	6	5	2	39	44	177	-7%
Great Horned Owl	24	CW	7	5	6	CW	4	13	3	1	63	66	329	-18%
Barred Owl	5	3	2	4	5	CW	1	6	2	2	30	50	120	+14%
Belted Kingfisher	2	1	4	4	7	1	8	8	2	1	38	51	153	+31%
Red-headed Woodpecker	6	3	0	1	0	7	1	2	3	0	23	19	53	-25%
Red-bellied Woodpecker	77	51	69	81	78	24	88	108	54	11	641	99	2,682	+8%
Downy Woodpecker	61	92	121	68	113	28	67	106	74	7	737	106	4,884	-10%
Hairy Woodpecker	39	26	42	25	43	9	30	38	21	2	275	106	2,012	-4%
Northern Flicker	2	4	20	5	8	0	4	6	4	0	53	54	224	-7%
Pileated Woodpecker	9	9	13	13	21	5	12	8	7	0	97	76	486	+16%
Northern Shrike	2	1	6	1	5	5	4	2	1	1	28	83	266	+2%
Blue Jay	224	101	209	140	282	108	210	175	107	17	1573	106	8,793	-24%
American Crow	346	880	1015	272	1372	443	424	354	186	45	5337	106	40,174	-1%
Common Raven	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	54	810	-7%
Horned Lark	49	46	2	1	303	21	14	31	115	0	582	43	1,821	-52%
Black-capped Chickadee	224	366	751	290	470	86	370	354	221	21	3153	106	28,122	-6%
Tufted Titmouse	21	53	77	12	46	5	66	79	28	0	387	44	876	+23%
Red-breasted Nuthatch	6	5	11	6	32	0	4	21	0	0	85	94	1,382	-23%
White-breasted Nuthatch	145	96	192	92	105	25	152	137	139	15	1098	106	5,928	-2%
Brown Creeper	1	2	8	8	10	0	2	15	6	0	52	69	374	+27%
Golden-crowned Kinglet	CW	0	1	5	5	0	2	4	2	0	19	49	219	+8%
Eastern Bluebird	25	4	42	27	45	4	31	50	10	0	238	44	673	+71%
American Robin	2	7	72	1	4	5	3	6	2	0	102	69	3,861	-19%
European Starling	1605	942	1070	252	2661	459	1017	1836	957	260	11,059	102	96,610	+2%
Cedar Waxwing	CW	0	238	13	32	0	0	0	1	0	284	74	7,706	+27%
Lapland Longspur	7	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	708	0	720	22	2,526	+3%
Snow Bunting	3	0	0	7	0	11	3	11	6	0	41	59	5,706	-45%
American Tree Sparrow	466	184	90	108	309	58	439	479	141	6	2280	88	10,728	-43%
Song Sparrow	24	1	0	7	4	0	12	14	20	5	87	36	217	-26%
Dark-eyed Junco	804	627	662	210	1543	210	1103	850	361	50	6420	99	25,903	-35%
Northern Cardinal	159	112	235	62	558	27	167	164	101	9	1594	97	7,588	-21%
Red-winged Blackbird	1	0	0	2	1	0	5	16	0	0	25	21	850	-45%
Brown-headed Cowbird	247	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	251	18	622	+8%
Purple Finch	23	24	28	8	21	2	7	1	12	2	128	73	892	-36%
House Finch	25	163	297	13	49	15	29	124	32	1	748	83	8,616	-7%
White-winged Crossbill	0	0	0	9	0	0	30	1	0	0	40	34	906	+95%
Common Redpoll	0	1	1	0	0	0	40	0	2	0	44	66	3,949	+73%
Pine Siskin	32	54	12	23	6	7	16	10	10	0	170	88	4,447	+70%
American Goldfinch	243	384	497	181	633	219	409	180	118	9	2873	106	22,326	+3%
House Sparrow	1083	405	535	462	1033	211	814	1164	639	64	6410	97	37,473	-25%
Total Species	54	46	62	60	55	39	68	68	66	40				

CW = Found within 3 days of the count day but not on the day of the count. **Bold lettering** within the counts indicates counts having the highest totals for the state.

Table 9. Species found on 17 or fewer counts.

Species	Number of Counts	Number of Birds	Count and Number
Greater White-fronted Goose	1	1	Madison 1
Snow Goose	6	25	Appleton 1, Ephraim 1, Kewaunee 2, Madison 3, Randolph 4, Riveredge 14 , (Waterloo)
Mute Swan	12	169	Ashland 1, (Baraboo), Brussels 1, Burlington 44, Dundee 3, Ephraim 37, Madison 3, Oconomowoc 8, Poynette 3, Sturgeon Bay 8, Washington Island 56 , Waukesha 4, Wisconsin Rapids 1
Wood Duck	10	16	Chippewa Falls 2, Clyde 1, Green Bay 1, La Crosse 1, Milwaukee 2, Montello 4 , Palmyra 1, Retreat 1, Sauk City 1, Wisconsin Rapids 2
Gadwall	16	482	Appleton 4, Burlington 1, Cookville 12, Fond du Lac 1, La Crosse 1, Lake Geneva 3, Madison 333 , Milwaukee 19, Nelson 1, New Richmond 4, Oconomowoc 9, Palmyra 2, Retreat 11, Trempealeau 1, Washington Island 17, Waukesha 63
American Wigeon	6	17	Bridgeport 1, Cookville 2, Ephraim 10 , Fond du Lac 1, La Crosse 1, Madison 2, (New Franken), (Waterloo)
Northern Shoveler	9	665	Appleton 3, Fond du Lac 3, (Green Bay), Madison 650 , Oshkosh 1, Palmyra 2, Plattville 1, Poynette 2, Retreat 2, Trempealeau 1, (Washington Island)
Northern Pintail	7	15	(Ashland), Burlington 1, Cedar Grove 1, Cookville 2, Durand 2, Green Bay 1, Green Lake 1, Madison 7
Green-winged Teal	8	21	Ephraim 2, Hustisford 1, Madison 8 , Milwaukee 1, Montello 3, Palmyra 1, Plattville 1, Riveredge 4
Canvasback	16	813	Appleton 2, Bridgeport 36, Cookville 1, Fond du Lac 7, Green Lake 8, Hartford 1, La Crosse 1, Lake Geneva 12, Madison 503 , New Franken 6, (Oconomowoc), Pensaukee 7, Plattville 150, Retreat 27, Sheboygan 2, Trempealeau 1, (Washington Island), Waterloo 50
Redhead	16	126	Appleton 2, Brussels 4, Cookville 1, Fond du Lac 4, Fort Atkinson 6, Fremont 1, Green Lake 5, Hales Corners 1, Kenosha 12, (Lake Geneva), Madison 24, New Franken 6, Pensaukee 4, (Racine), Retreat 2, Sheboygan 8, Sturgeon Bay 36 , Washington Island 10, (Waterloo)
Ring-necked Duck	13	183	Appleton 1, Bayfield 3, Beloit 1, (Brodhead), Brussels 14, Burlington 1, Fond du Lac 3, Hartford 2, Kenosha 1, La Crosse 2, Madison 34, Milwaukee 4, New Franken 50, Riveredge 6, (Stevens Point), Waterloo 64
Harlequin Duck	2	3	Milwaukee 2 , Pensaukee 1
Surf Scoter	3	35	Cedar Grove 26 , Hales Corners 8, Milwaukee 1
White-winged Scoter	3	23	Cedar Grove 15 , Milwaukee 1, Pensaukee 7
Black Scoter	4	8	Cedar Grove 5 , Hales Corners 1, Pensaukee 1, Sheboygan 1
Long-tailed Duck	6	210	Appleton 1, Cedar Grove 107 , Madison 2, (Racine), Sturgeon Bay 8, Two Rivers 91, Washington Island 1
Ruddy Duck	15	135	Appleton 14, Beloit 2, Burlington 14, Fond du Lac 1, Fort Atkinson 6, Green Bay 1, Hartford 3, La Crosse 2, Madison 50 , Milwaukee 14, Oshkosh 2, Retreat 7, Riveredge 4, Waterloo 11, Waukesha 4
[Northern Bobwhite]	[2]	[19]	[Although the following count reports are being shown, it is most likely that all the individuals noted are released birds. One might wonder what, if anything, remains of Wisconsin's native stock. New Franken 18 , Riveredge 1, (Washington Island)]
Gray Partridge	1	2	Bridgeport 2
Spruce Grouse	1	4	Clam Lake 4
Red-throated Loon	4	8	Hales Corners 1, (Racine), Manitowoc 5 , Milwaukee 1, Two Rivers 1
Common Loon	6	18	Cedar Grove 2, Gurney 1, Madison 12 , Milwaukee 1, (Oshkosh), Sheboygan 1, Waterloo 1
Pied-billed Grebe	7	11	Ephraim 1, Milwaukee 1, Oshkosh 1, Riveredge 4 , Trempealeau 1, Wisconsin Rapids 2
Horned Grebe	10	39	Brussels 1, Cedar Grove 1, Ephraim 1, Fond du Lac 1, Hales Corners 5, Kenosha 1, (Lake Geneva), Madison 10, Milwaukee 11 , Oconomowoc 1, Racine 3, (Sturgeon Bay), Washington Island 5
Red-necked Grebe	3	3	Ephraim 1, Madison 1, Waterloo 1
Double-crested Cormorant	7	1030	Appleton 63, Brussels 1, Fond du Lac 3, Green Bay 952 , Milwaukee 1, Oshkosh 1, Riveredge 9
American White Pelican	2	11	Appleton 1, Green Bay 10
Great Blue Heron	14	23	Beloit 2, Blanchardville 2, Burlington 1, Caroline 1, Hudson 1, Madison 1, Milwaukee 2, Palmyra 3 , Racine 1, Randolph 1, Riveredge 2, Two Rivers 1, Trempealeau 3 , Waukesha 2
Turkey Vulture	6	22	Baraboo 2, Luck 1, New Franken 7, Palmyra 10 , Trempealeau 1, Two Rivers 1
Northern Goshawk	10	11	Appleton 1, Armstrong Creek 1, Florence 1, Friendship 1, Green Bay 1, (Hartford), Lakewood 2 , Medford 1, Rhinelander 1, Shawano 1, Three Lakes 1
Red-shouldered Hawk	7	7	(Baraboo), Friendship 1, Green Lake 1, La Crosse 1, Lake Geneva 1, Riveredge 1, Trempealeau 1, Wisconsin Rapids 1
Golden Eagle	7	11	Baraboo 2 , Bridgeport 2 , Cassville 1, Friendship 2 , Kickapoo Valley 2 , Montello 1, Shiocton 1
Merlin	17	18	Appleton 1, Baraboo 1, (Bayfield), Brussels 2 , Cassville 1, Clyde 1, Cookville 1, Kickapoo Valley 1, La Crosse 1, Madison 1, Milwaukee 1, Oshkosh 1, Sauk City 1, Sheboygan 1, Shiocton 1, Stevens Point 1, Sturgeon Bay 1, Wausau 1
Peregrine Falcon	9	17	Cassville 1, Green Bay 5 , Kenosha 1, La Crosse 1, Racine 1, Riveredge 2, Manitowoc 1, Menchalville 1, Milwaukee 4, (Wisconsin Rapids)
Virginia Rail	2	7	Palmyra 5 , Poynette 2
Sandhill Crane	14	5431	Appleton 1, Baraboo 5,000 , Beloit 26, Cookville 35, Fort Atkinson 21, Lake Geneva 21, Madison 77, Palmyra 4, Pardeeville 6, Poynette 76, Randolph 21, Sauk City 139, Washington Island 3, Wautoma 1, (Wisconsin Rapids)
Killdeer	3	4	Bayfield 1, (Blanchardville), La Crosse 1, Retreat 2
Sanderling	0	0	(Racine)
Purple Sandpiper	2	3	Milwaukee 1, Racine 2
Wilson's Snipe	8	12	Bridgeport 3 , Clyde 1, Brodhead 1, Kickapoo Valley 1, Montello 3 , Palmyra 1, Riveredge 1, Wautoma 1
Thayer's Gull	3	8	Appleton 3, Green Lake 1, Milwaukee 4 , (Racine)
Iceland Gull	5	5	Appleton 1, (Green Bay), Green Lake 1, Hales Corners 1, Madison 1, Milwaukee 1

(Continued)

Table 9. (Continued).

Species	Number of Counts	Number of Birds	Count and Number
Lesser Black-backed Gull	5	11	Appleton 3, Hales Corners 1, Milwaukee 4 , Racine 1, Riveredge 2
Glaucous Gull	10	56	Appleton 3, Cedar Grove 2, Fond du Lac 4, (Green Bay), (Kewaunee), La Crosse 1, (Madison), Manitowoc 12, Milwaukee 5, Oshkosh 1, Racine 2, Sheboygan 7, Two Rivers 19
Great Black-backed Gull	9	30	Appleton 1, Fond du Lac 1, Kewaunee 4, Lake Geneva 1, Milwaukee 1, (Oshkosh), Racine 2, Riveredge 1, Sheboygan 9, Two Rivers 10
Eurasian Collared-Dove	4	45	Bridgeport 22 , Cassville 7, Collins 2, Poynette 14
Snowy Owl	16	32	Ashland 3, Bayfield 1, Cassville 1, (Fond du Lac), Gillman 1, Hales Corners 1, Hayward 1, Horicon 3, Kenosha 1, (Kewaunee), La Crosse 5 , (Madison), Medford 1, Milwaukee 3, New Franken 2, Pensaukee 4, Shawano 2, Sheboygan 2, (Stevens Point), Stockbridge 1, (Sturgeon Bay)
Long-eared Owl	8	10	Baraboo 1, Cassville 1, La Crosse 1, Madison 1, Milwaukee 1, New Franken 2 , Palmyra 2 , Wautoma 1
Short-eared Owl	7	18	Appleton 5, Brodhead 1, (Burlington), Cassville 3, Fremont 6 , Horicon 1, La Crosse 1, Stockbridge 1
Northern Saw-whet Owl	14	28	Baraboo 3, Beloit 1, Clyde 5 , Fond du Lac 1, Fremont 1, Green Lake 3, Kewaunee 1, La Crosse 1, Madison 1, Montello 1, Palmyra 3, Riveredge 3, Sauk City 2, Wautoma 2
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	12	25	Baraboo 2, Bridgeport 3, Green Bay 2, Green Lake 1, Hales Corners 5 , La Crosse 2, Madison 1, Milwaukee 2, Mount Horeb 1, (Palmyra), Retreat 1, Sauk City 4, Trempealeau 1
Black-backed Woodpecker	2	2	Caroline 1, Clam Lake 1
Gray Jay	6	29	Armstrong Creek 10 , Clam Lake 10 , Fifield 4, Florence 2, Manitowish Waters 1, Three Lakes 2
Boreal Chickadee	1	3	Phelps 3
Carolina Wren	2	6	Bridgeport 2, Madison 4
Winter Wren	11	14	Appleton 1, (Baraboo), Beloit 1, Blanchardville 1, Bridgeport 2 , Brussels 1, Cassville 1, Clyde 2 , Kenosha 1, Madison 2 , Retreat 1, Riveredge 1
Marsh Wren	1	1	Sauk City 1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	1	(Blanchardville), Cassville 1, (Waukesha)
Townsend's Solitaire	3	4	Baraboo 2 , Madison 1, Medford 1
Hermit Thrush	4	11	Hales Corners 3, Madison 3, Palmyra 4 , Riveredge 1
Varied Thrush	1	1	Cable 1, (New Richmond)
Gray Catbird	4	4	Appleton 1, Bayfield 1, Durand 1, Madison 1
Northern Mockingbird	1	1	Beloit 1
American Pipit	1	1	Milwaukee 1
Bohemian Waxwing	5	58	(Ashland), Caroline 1, Ephraim 1, Friendship 1, New Franken 25, Washington Island 30
Common Yellowthroat	0	0	(Milwaukee)
Pine Warbler	1	1	Hales Corners 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler	16	56	Appleton 1, Baraboo 1, Blanchardville 2, Burlington 1, Ephraim 3, Hales Corners 3, Hartford 5, La Crosse 1, Madison 2, Meadow Valley 18 , Milwaukee 4, Pardeeville 5, Racine 1, Sauk City 7, Trempealeau 1, Waukesha 2
Yellow-throated Warbler	0	0	(Two Rivers)
Spotted Towhee	1	1	(Madison), Wausau 1
Eastern Towhee	1	1	Bridgeport 1
Chipping Sparrow	4	4	Baraboo 1, Gillman 1, (La Crosse), New Richmond 1, Two Rivers 1
Field Sparrow	4	13	Beloit 1, Bridgeport 8 , Cassville 3, Plattville 1
Vesper Sparrow	1	1	Sauk City 1
Savannah Sparrow	1	1	Rosendale 1
Fox Sparrow	8	11	Bridgeport 2, Clyde 1, Green Bay 1, Lake Geneva 1, Madison 1, Retreat 1, Riveredge 3 , Wausau 1
Swamp Sparrow	16	82	Blanchardville 7, Bridgeport 1, Brodhead 1, Burlington 1, Clyde 3, Hales Corners 3, Hustisford 3, La Crosse 1, Madison 16, Milwaukee 1, Mount Horeb 1, Palmyra 7, Poynette 1, Riveredge 17, Sauk City 18 , Waterloo 1, (Waukesha)
White-throated Sparrow	13	65	Appleton 3, Blanchardville 2, Bridgeport 3, Cassville 2, (Fifield), Hales Corners 1, La Crosse 1, Madison 20 , Milwaukee 17, Richland Center 3, Riveredge 4, Sauk City 1, Waukesha 3, Wausau 5
White-crowned Sparrow	7	17	Blanchardville 1, Cassville 2, La Crosse 1, Madison 6 , Palmyra 1, Pensaukee 1, Riveredge 5
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1	1	Mount Horeb 1, (Poynette)
Indigo Bunting	1	1	Cassville 1
Western Meadowlark	1	1	Medford 1
meadowlark sp.	4	4	Clyde 1, Kewaunee 1, Richland Center 1, Waterloo 1
Rusty Blackbird	4	62	Beloit 43 , Blanchardville 1, Clyde 17, La Crosse 1
Common Grackle	17	243	Baraboo 200 , Caroline 1, Cooksville 3, Fort Atkinson 1, Herbster 3, Hustisford 1, New Franken 11, Hartford 1, Madison 1, Milwaukee 2, Oconomowoc 1, Palmyra 1, Pensaukee 1, Sauk City 13, Sheboygan 1, Trempealeau 1, Waterloo 1
Pine Grosbeak	9	158	Ashland 32, Bayfield 16, Clam Lake 24, Fifield 3, Florence 16, Gurney 35 , Herbster 3, Manitowish Waters 14, Phelps 15
Red Crossbill	16	103	Clam Lake 4, Clyde 17, Fifield 1, Florence 1, Lakewood 6, Madison 1, Meadow Valley 8, Medford 18 , Owen 10, Pensaukee 9, Phelps 5, Stevens Point 1, Summit Lake 6, Three Lakes 3, Waupaca 6, Wausau 7
Evening Grosbeak	11	266	Armstrong Creek 89 , Ashland 1, Clam Lake 35, Fifield 34, Florence 12, Gilman 2, Lakewood 35, Manitowish Waters 18, Phelps 30, Rhinelander 7, Richland Center 3

Parentheses indicate species was seen within 3 days of the count but not on the day of the count. **Bold lettering** indicates counts having the highest totals for the state.

White-winged Scoters reported, 15 came from Cedar Grove. Although 23 is the third highest count in the history of the CBCs, it is minor compared to the 207 found in 1986, with 200 of those coming from Milwaukee. In 2011 there were 8 Black Scoters reported, with 5 of those coming from Cedar Grove. The only year with better numbers was 2003 when 10 were found, 8 of those coming from Cedar Grove. For the second consecutive year there was no find of a Barrow's Goldeneye. Common Mergansers (20,826 over 50 counts) were found in record numbers for both counts and individuals. The old high for both counts and individuals had been 14,913 over 48 counts in the warm year of 2001. The 6,754 Commons counted at Green Bay were a single circle record. The old single circle record had been 5,103 in Fond du Lac in 2001. Red-breasted Mergansers (4,579 over 27 counts) had a fine year also. The number of counts was record high, the old record being 21 in 2001. The number of individuals was second only to 12,654 in 2010. The highest total next to these was 3,518 in 1998.

Partridge through Quail—As can be expected in years with little snow, species in this grouping fared poorly. As mentioned in the introduction, there was no Northern Bobwhite that came from native stock. In addition, for the first time since 1945, no Gray Partridge was found. Both these species are vanishing from the Wisconsin landscape. The Ring-necked Pheasant (239 over 56 counts) was 68% below its 10-year average. The number of counts and individuals was the lowest since 208 over 54 counts in 1998. Might there have been fewer

pheasants released for the fall hunt? The most common species in this grouping, the Wild Turkey, was found in normal numbers. Even so, its total dropped from 16,541 in 2010 to 12,801 in 2011. This was likely due to the lack of snow.

Loons through Vultures—A difference between warm and cold counts might well be noted in the numbers and the variety of species found in this grouping. In the cold count of 2010, there were no loons. In the warm count of 2011 there were both Red-throated Loons (8 over 4 counts) and Common Loons (18 over 6 counts). The number of counts reporting Red-throated Loons was record high and the number of such loons was second only to 13 in 2006. One would need to go back to the warm count of 2001 to find a greater number of Common Loons (50 over 15 counts). In the cold count of 2010 the only grebe was the Pied-billed, with 4 found over 2 counts. In the warm count of 2011, Pied-billed Grebe numbers increase to 11 over 7 counts. Besides this, there were 39 Horned Grebes over 10 counts. Both numbers were record highs. In addition, Red-necked Grebes were documented for Ephraim, Madison, and Waterloo. The only other years with Red-necked were 1994 (1 at Fond du Lac), 2000 (1 at Milwaukee), and 2007 (1 at Lake Geneva). Double-crested Cormorant numbers jumped from 36 in the cold count of 2010 to 1,030 in the warm count of 2011. These 1,030 individuals are an extreme increase over the previous high of 124 in 2002. Most of these cormorants came from Green Bay (952) with another 63 coming from Appleton. Strangely, Great Blue Heron numbers were below average with just

23 over 14 counts. The Turkey Vulture (22 over 6 counts) was record high in counts and second in individuals only to 24 in 2006. Besides their regular winter hangout on the rather northern New Franken Count, vultures were reported as far north as Luck and Two Rivers.

Hawks and Eagles—The two species in this listing most affected by snow depth would be the Northern Harrier and the American Kestrel. With deep snow in 2010 and the lack of snow in 2011, both species had increases. The Harrier went from 35 to 186 individuals, while the Kestrel went from 352 to 656 individuals. The Bald Eagle for the first time reached the 1,000 individual mark in 2001 with 1,196. Since then it has mainly stayed above 1,000 with the high mark being 1,924 in 2006. In 2011 this eagle finally broke the 2,000 barrier with 2,382 over 97 counts, both of which were record highs. The 2,382 individuals were 66% above the 10-year average. One of the constants over the past decade had been the slow but steady increase in Cooper's Hawk numbers. This year was different. The 238 Cooper's over 64 counts was 18% below the 10-year average and the shortest tally since 217 in 2002. The Merlin (18 over 17 counts) was record high in counts and second in individuals only to 20 in 2009. The Peregrine Falcon (17 over 9 counts) was similar with a record high in counts and second in individuals only to 19 in 2010.

Rails through Shorebirds—As is becoming the custom, Virginia Rails were heard at Palmyra and Poynette. With what became a mild winter, the rails at Palmyra continued to be heard in some numbers into February and many have overwintered. The Ameri-

can Coot is another species that can be abundant in warm counts and less so in cold ones. The 12,637 over 19 counts in 2011 was a record high. The old record had been 12,580 in 1998. The Sandhill Crane is yet another species that can be numerous in warm years and absent in cold. The 5,431 found in 2011 was second only to the 6,019 of 1998. Of these 5,431, five thousand came from Baraboo. The state record for a single circle is 5,960 set by Lake Geneva in 1998. There were two Purple Sandpipers documented from Racine and another from Milwaukee. The only other count years with this species were 1965 (1 at Racine), 2002 (1 at Sheboygan), and 2007 (1 at Racine). For the first time in the history of the CBCs, a Sanderling was found. It was found during the count week at Racine.

Gulls—The Ring-billed and the Herring Gull are two species whose numbers are also affected by the type of count. In the cold count of 2010, the Ring-billed numbers were 2,198 over 19 counts. In the warm count of 2011, those numbers improved to 6,149 over 55 counts. Although the 2011 number was 180% above the year before, the 2011 total was still 34% below the 10-year average. As for the Herring Gull, the cold count numbers from 2010 (9,154 over 36 counts) compared to the warm count numbers of 2011 (28,735 over 50) were an increase of 214%. The number of Herring Gulls was 25% above the 10-year average and second only to the impressive 71,129 from the warm count of 2006. The less common gulls did well also. The Iceland Gull (5 over 5 counts) broke the old high of 3 over 3 counts, which had been set in 2003, 2005, and 2008. The Lesser Black-

backed Gull (11 over 5 counts) matched its high in counts and broke its high for individuals, both of which had been set in 2005 (8 over 5 counts). The 56 Glaucous Gulls broke the old high of 35 in 2005. The 19 Glaucous at Two Rivers were second for a single count only to the 22 in the same circle in 2005. The 30 Great Black-backed Gulls were second only to the 43 of 2003.

Doves—While the Rock Pigeon was found in normal numbers, the Mourning Dove (14,702 over 105 counts) was 36% below its 10-year average and had the lowest total since 14,203 in 1999 (when there were only 83 count circles). When divided by party hours, the number of Mourning Doves found per hour of birding was 3.2. This was the lowest average per hour since 2.9 in 1986. For years the Eurasian Collared-Dove has been underrepresented on the CBCs. This year's record highs (45 over 4 counts) begin to address this deficit. The 45 individuals replaced the old high of 29 in 2006.

Owls—Although, through most of the count period, there were nearly ideal conditions for counting owls and although owling hours were just shy of record high, common owls continued their long trend of decreasing numbers. The Eastern Screech Owl was 7% below its 10-year average, while the Great Horned Owl was 18% below that average. The Barred Owl (120 over 50 counts) did show improvement, being 14% above average. The only years with better Barred totals were 2003 (134), 2006 (136), and 2007 (124). It was an historic year for the Snowy Owl. There were a record number of individuals (32) and a record matching high of counts (16).

The former high in individuals had been 21 (set in 1996), while the matching high in counts was set in 1981 (a year in which 20 individuals were found).

Kingfishers—Due to the mild weather and open water, the Belted Kingfisher was found in record numbers. The total of 153 individuals surpasses the former high of 140 (set in the warm count of 2002).

Woodpeckers—This grouping was one of the more adversely affected for numbers by the warm count. Of the common woodpeckers, the Downy was the most affected, being 10% below its 10-year average and having its lowest total of individuals since the warm count of 2005. Despite having a lower total in 2011 than in many of the cold counts in 2007 through 2010, the Red-bellied was still 8% above its 10 year average and the Pileated 16%. The Pileated has had the most rapid growth of any woodpecker. Even with its diminished total of 486 in 2011 (from 544 in 2010), this 486 is well over twice the number of any count before 1999. The first count year to record 100 Pileated was 1978 (with 107), the first count year to record 200 was 1994 (with 216), the first count year to record 300 was 2002 (with 341), the first count year to record 400 was 2006 (with 432), the first count year to record 500 was 2007 (with 544). Since then there has been 510 in 2009 and 544 in 2010. The least common woodpecker on the WSO CBCs is the Black-backed Woodpecker. This year the Black-backed was found on the Caroline and Clam Lake counts.

Shrikes through Ravens—The Northern Shrike (266 over 83 counts) was widespread and held strong num-

bers. It was only a match to its 10-year average due to the inclusion of the huge total of 485 in 2007 within that average. The Gray Jay continued along its road of declining numbers. The Blue Jay, after record highs in 2009 and 2010, fell to 24% below its 10-year average in 2011. Both the American Crow and the Common Raven were found in normal numbers.

Larks—Few species show such remarkable declines in years with little snow as does the Horned Lark. The snow filled counts of 2009 and 2010 showed record highs. In 2010, this lark was 75% above its 10-year average. The snow deprived count of 2011 found it 52% below that average.

Chickadees, Titmouse, Nuthatches, and Creepers—As mentioned, Black-capped Chickadee numbers fell from 31,258 in 2010 to 28,122 in 2011, the latter number being 6% below the 10-year average. After having none on last year's count, there were 3 Boreal Chickadees found within the Phelps Circle. Even with a drop in Tufted Titmouse from the year before, the 876 counted was still 23% above the 10-year average. Although widely scattered, Red-breasted Nuthatch numbers were also thinly scattered, their numbers being 23% below average. The Brown Creeper (374 over 69 counts) had a strong year, with the number of counts second only to the 73 of 2006 and the number of individuals second only to the 445 of 2009.

Wrens and Kinglets—The Carolina Wren (6 over 2 counts) had one of its weaker counts in recent years, while the Winter Wren (14 over 11 counts) had one of its better years. A Marsh Wren was documented from the Sauk City Circle. It was the first Marsh Wren

for the CBCs since one in Fond du Lac in 2004. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet was documented from Cassville. The Marsh Wren and the Ruby-crowned Kinglet are examples of birds that might not have survived a harsher count period.

Thrushes—It was a good year for Eastern Bluebirds with 673 found over 44 counts. These numbers are surpassed only by 2005 (779 over 54 counts) and 2007 (779 over 46 counts). Besides its regular appearance on the Baraboo Count, the Townsend's Solitaire was reported from Madison and Medford. Although the American Robin (3,861 over 69 counts) was more than double in number from the year before, it was still 19% below its average. A Varied Thrush was found at Cable, while a second was found during the count week at New Richmond.

Catbirds through Waxwings—Four Gray Catbirds were found over 4 counts. The 4 counts were record high and the 4 individuals match the high set in 2004 and 2006. A Northern Mockingbird was reported from Beloit. Despite the mild count, there were no Brown Thrashers. This was the first miss since 2003. An American Pipit was reported from Milwaukee. At one time, this pipit was nearly never found on CBCs. Previous to 1994, they appeared in only two count years with a total of 2 individuals. They have now been reported every year starting with 2002, the exception being none in 2008. The year 2010 was great for Bohemian Waxwings with 987 found over 21 counts. The year 2011 was as poor as the previous year was great, with just 58 Bohemians found over 5 counts. The fate of the Cedar Waxwing was just the opposite of the

Bohemian. In 2010, the Cedar Waxwing was 33% below its average. In 2011, this waxwing (7,706 over 74 counts) was record high and 27% above its average. The previous high had been 7,119 in 2002.

Longspurs and Snow Buntings—

Snow Buntings are best found with snow. In the snow filled count of 2010, this bunting broke all previous records for both counts and individuals with 25,570 over 93 counts. It did less well in the snow challenged year of 2011 with but 5,786 over 59 counts. The number of individuals was the least since 3,145 in 2004 and was 45% below the 10-year average. Although Lapland Longspur numbers fell from 7,016 in 2010 to 2,526 in 2011, this 2011 number was an improvement over other totals in the recent past when numbers often failed to reach 1,000.

Warblers—Due to the mild year, the Yellow-rumped Warbler (56 over 16 counts) was record high in both individuals and counts. The record high for individuals had been 53 in the warm year of 2001. The record high in counts had been 12 in 2005. The mildness of the period induced three other warblers to join the Yellow-rumped for the count. A Common Yellowthroat was found during the count period in Milwaukee. The last year with a Yellowthroat was in the warm count of 2001 when 2 were found at Brussels and one in Milwaukee. A Pine Warbler was documented from Hales Corners. This was but the 5th year for a Pine. The other four were 1974 (Durand), 1980 (Manitowoc), 1990 (La Crosse), and 2008 (Green Bay). A Yellow-throated Warbler was found during the count period at Two Rivers, thus becoming the

first such warbler to venture its way into the counts.

Towhees through Buntings—A Spotted Towhee was documented from Wausau, while another was found during the count week at Madison. This marks the 7th count on which there was a Spotted and the first since 2004. An Eastern Towhee was found at Bridgeport. This was not a good year for sparrows. In snow filled counts, large numbers of American Tree Sparrows and Dark-eyed Juncos can often be found along the plowed gravel edges of highways. This is not the case in snowless counts. Birders, instead, need to work the bushes and the fence lines to find them. The American Tree Sparrow (10,728 over 88 counts) had its lowest total since 8,491 in 1993 and was 43% below its 10-year average. The junco (25,903 over 99 counts) had hardly half the numbers of the last three counts and was 35% below its average. The other common winter sparrow, the Song Sparrow, was just as difficult to pry from its hiding places and was thus 26% below its average. The less common and less hardy sparrows did better, perhaps aided by the mild conditions. The Chipping Sparrow was documented from Baraboo, Gillman, New Richmond, and Two Rivers. These 4 individuals over 4 counts were surpassed only by the 6 over 5 counts in 2007. The Field Sparrow (13 over 4 counts) was shy of the record highs of 18 in 1963 and 14 in 1991. Eight of these sparrows were found at Bridgeport. A Vesper Sparrow was documented from Sauk City and a Savannah Sparrow was documented from Rosendale. The Swamp Sparrow (82 over 16 counts) did well with the highest count of individuals since 118 in 2002. The Fox

Sparrow (11 over 8 counts) made a major slip. One must reach back to the 10 from 1998 to find fewer. The White-throated and the White-crowned Sparrow both had sorry counts. The White-throated (65 over 13 counts) had its lowest total since 57 in 1993 and was 63% below its average. The White-crowned (17 over 7 counts) was 48% below its average. The Harris's Sparrow was worse, having not been found for the first time since 2006. Of the common permanent residents that had fewer numbers in the mild count of 2011, the Northern Cardinal (7,588 over 97 counts) had the steepest decline. The number of individuals was the lowest since 7,357 in the warm count of 2001, it was 21% below its 10-year average, and the 1.64 individuals per birding hour was the least since the warm count of 2002 with 1.54 per hour. On the other hand, perhaps due to the mild conditions, a Rose-breasted Grosbeak was counted at Mount Horeb and found during the count week at Poynette. An Indigo Bunting was documented from Cassville. This would be the 3rd count record, the other two being Stockbridge in 1986 and Peshtigo in 2006. Due to the late date on which the documentation was received, this bunting has yet to go before the records committee.

Blackbirds—Normally blackbirds are found in larger numbers in years with little snow. This year, although there were increases over the numbers from the past 4 cold counts, the increases were not near enough to compete with totals from other warm years since 2000. Thus, for the Red-winged Blackbird, though its number increased from 140 in 2010 to 850 in 2011, it was still 45% below its 10-year

average. Similar totals could be given for the Rusty Blackbird and the Common Grackle. For the first time since 2002 there were no Brewer's Blackbirds. For the first time since 2004 a Western Meadowlark was documented, with the report coming from Medford. Overall, meadowlarks fared poorly. There were but 5 such larks over 5 counts with no finds specified as Eastern Meadowlarks.

Finches—Most finches did well. The main exception was the Purple Finch (892 over 73 counts), which was 36% below its 10-year average. Of the species in this grouping, the White-winged Crossbill (906 over 34 counts) had the best showing, being 95% above its average. The only years with better numbers were 1977 (1,766 over 36 counts), 1989 (3,107 over 37 counts), and 2008 (3,063 over 46 counts). The Red Crossbill (103 over 16 counts) was 72% above average. One need go back to 1989 (with 18 counts) to find a year with more circles. Red Crossbills were reported as far south as Clyde and Madison. The Clyde Count in Iowa County had the state high with 17 birds. Likewise, the White-winged Crossbill was widespread, with reports from such southern locations as Bridgeport, Clyde, Dundee, Fond du Lac, Hales Corners, Milwaukee, Montello, Palmyra, Poynette, Randolph, Retreat, Rosendale, and Waukesha. The high count was 78 at the central location of Stevens Point. It was a major year for the Common Redpoll (3,949 over 66 counts) with numbers 73% above average. As with the crossbills, the redpoll was widespread. The 66 circles reporting redpolls match the record high from 2007. Although this was a strong year for the Common Redpoll, there were

no reports of the Hoary. It was also a strong year for the Pine Siskin (4,447 over 88 counts). The number of individuals was 70% above the 10-year average.

House Sparrow—For many years the House Sparrow has been traveling down the road to ever lower numbers. This year it moved farther than ever before, being 25% below its average.

WILLIAM L. HILSENHOFF (1929–2011)

I would be remiss if ending without mention of the passing of William L. Hilsenhoff on 16 June 2011. Hilsenhoff made many contributions to Wisconsin birding but, for me, his crowning achievement was the evolution of the WSO CBC Reports in the time period of 1965 through 1999. I believe no one will match his 34 years of continuous service as compiler. Before he became compiler in 1965, the CBC Reports were a different creature than they are today. Through his early years, Bill tinkered with the format of the reports until he found a format to his liking. When I took over as compiler in 2000, I kept Bill's basic format and that format continues to this day. Bill also took the time to create note cards for every species that ever appeared on a CBC. On these cards, he placed each year that a species was found, how many counts each year that species was found, plus the number of individuals found each year. It is only through his efforts that present-day counts are able to be compared to counts from the past. Thank you, Bill, for this wonderful gift of knowledge.

APPENDIX

An alphabetical listing of the counts follows. This listing includes the location of the count center plus the name, address, telephone number, and email address of the compiler. For birders wanting to join a count, it is suggested they contact the count compiler. For those wanting to start a new count, they must first contact the state compiler whose address is located at the beginning of this article.

Antigo (35); Jct. of 45 and 7th Ave, Antigo; Nancy Richmond, N3480 County Road S, Antigo, WI 54409; 715. 623. 6850; polarpastor@gmail.com. **Appleton** (67); Jct. Hwys. 47 and 125, Outagamie Co.; Darwin Tiede, 2809 Schaefer Circle, Appleton, WI 54915; 920. 997. 9418; ctiede@new.rr.com. **Armstrong Creek** (16); Jct. of Hwys. 8 and 101, Forest County; Kay Kavanagh, 712 Lakeview Ln., Niagara, WI 54151; 715. 589. 2299; kkav@uplogon.com. **Arpin** (38); 1/2 mi. N of Jct. Hwy. C and Oak Rd., Wood Co.; Dennis SeEVERS, 9370 Vermillion St., Milladore, WI 54454; 715. 652. 2197; rock-cut@solarus.net. **Ashland** (3); Jct. Hwy. 2 and Sanborn Ave., Ashland; Dick Verch, 906 Ellis Ave., Ashland, WI 54806; 715. 682. 5453; dverch2@charter.net. **Baraboo** (99); Jct. City View Rd. and Hwy. A, Baraboo; Scott Swengel, 909 Birch St., Baraboo, WI 53913; 608. 356. 9543; aswengel@jvl.net.com. **Bayfield** (2); T 50 N, R 5 W, S-22; David A. Bratley; Box 518, Washburn, WI 54891; 715. 373. 2564; dabirder@juno.com. **Beloit** (95); Jct. Tracy and Eau Claire Rds., about two miles W of Rock Co. Airport; Brad Paulson, 15034 W. Carroll Rd., Brodhead, WI 53520; 608. 879. 2647;

bradp@ruppseeds.com. **Birchwood** (5); MacRae Lake, Washburn County; Rick Pertile, 1818 Laurel Ave. West, Minneapolis, MN 55405; 612. 374. 3417; mugzy1960@msn.com. **Black River Falls** (30); Jct. Hwys. H and 54, Jackson Co.; Judy Allen, W12866 River Rd., Black River Falls, WI 54615; 608. 488. 4150; knothole@centurytel.net. **Blanchardville** (97); 2.5 miles SW of Blanchardville; David Willard, Bird Division, Field Museum of Natural History, 1400 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, IL 60605; 312. 665. 7731; dwillard@fieldmuseum.org. **Bridgeport** (104); Hwy. 18 bridge over Wisconsin R.; Dennis Kirschbaum, 1505 E. Parrish St., Prairie du Chien, WI 53821; 608. 326. 2718; kad9801@centurytel.net. **Brodhead** (96); Jct. of Golf Course Rd. and Sugar River Trail, Green Co.; Quentin Yoerger, 6831 N. Francis Dr., Evansville, WI 53536; 608. 882. 6078; harrierqman@gmail.com. **Brussels** (51); Jct. Hwy. 57 and Stevenson Pier Rd., Door Co.; Charlotte Lukes, 3962 Hillside Rd., Egg Harbor, WI 54209; 920. 823. 2478; Rnclukes@mwwb.net. **Burlington** (79); Jct. Hwy. A and Crossway Rd., Racine Co.; Maureen Gross, S109 W27685 Maple Ave., Mukwonago, WI 53149; 262. 363. 4307; cygnusbuccinator@centurytel.net. **Cable** (7); Jct. Hwys. M and D, Bayfield Co.; Katie Connolly, Cable Natural History Museum, P.O. Box 416, Cable, WI 54821; 715. 798. 3890; Katie@cablemuseum.org. **Caroline** (46); center of Caroline; Jan Hewitt, 1074 E. Paulson Rd., Iola, WI 54945; 715. 445. 2489. **Cassville** (105); Jct. Garden Prairie and Muskellunge Rds., Grant Co.; David Sikorski, 449 N. 39th St., Milwaukee, WI 53208; 414. 379. 9650; akela317@aol.com. **Cedar Grove** (59); Jct. Hwy. G and Palmer Rd., She-

boygan Co.; Tom Uttech, 4305 Hwy. O, Saukville, WI 53080; 262. 675. 6482; tuttech@wi.rr.com. **Chippewa Falls** (23); Jct. Hwys. 178 and S, Chippewa Co.; Charles A. Kemper, 727 Maple St., Chippewa Falls, WI 54729; 715. 723. 3815; charleskemper@sbcglobal.net. **Clam Lake** (8); 7 miles SE of Clam Lake; Keith Merkel, 11722 Robin Rd., Marshfield, WI 54449; 715. 384. 2383; kkemerkel@yahoo.com. **Clyde** (100); Jct. Hwy. ZZ and Weaver Rd., Iowa Co.; Steve Greb, 1714 Labrador Rd., Oregon, WI 53575; 608. 835. 5266; steven.greb@gmail.com. **Collins** (72); 3 miles W of St. Nazianz on Hwy. C; Jim Knickelbine, Woodland Dunes Nature Center, P.O. Box 486, Two Rivers, WI 54241; 920. 793. 4007; nature@woodlanddunes.org. **Columbus** (88); Jct. Johnson and Jahnke Sts. (south of Columbus); Chris West, 20262 Jarvis Hollow, Richland Center, WI 53581; 608. 647. 6403; chris.w.birder@gmail.com. **Cooksville** (94); Cooksville, Rock Co.; David and Anna Marie Huset, 242 W. Church St., Evansville, WI 53536; 608. 882. 5648; huset@att.net. **Dundee** (74); Hwy. DD, W of Auburn Lake, Fond du Lac Co.; Bill Volkert, W996 Birchwood Dr., Campbellsport, WI 53010; 920. 533. 8939; williamvolkert@hotmail.com. **Durand** (22); Jct. Hwys. 25 and DD 3 miles N of Durand, Dunn Co.; Charles A. Kemper, 727 Maple St., Chippewa Falls, WI 54729; 715. 723. 3815; charleskemper@sbcglobal.net. **Ephraim** (53); Hwy. A 3 miles S of Jct. with Hwy. 42, Door Co.; Karen Newbern, P.O. Box 152, Baileys Harbor, WI 54202; 920. 839. 2802; karen@ridgessanctuary.org. **Fifield** (9); Fifield Post Office; Thomas Nicholls, W7283 Walnut St. P.O. Box 63, Fifield, WI 54524; 715. 762. 3076; nicho002@umn.edu. **Flo-**

rence (15); just NE of center of Section 19, Town of Commonwealth, Florence Co.; Kay Kavanagh, 712 Lakeview Ln., Niagara, WI 54151; 715. 589. 2299; kkav@uplogon.com. **Fond du Lac** (69); Jct. Tower and Cody Rds., Fond du Lac Co.; Jeff Baughman, W2640 Middle Road, Campbellsport, WI 53010; 920. 960. 4732; jbaughman@csd.k12.wi.us. **Fort Atkinson** (93); Jct. Hwy. K and Hackbarth Ave., Jefferson Co.; Richard Wanie, W5920 Lee Dr., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; 920. 563. 6274; crwanie@att.net. **Fremont** (43); Jct. Hwys. I and HH 4 miles SW of Fremont; Larry Riedinger, PO Box 11, Caroline, WI 54928; 920. 205. 7491; riedingerl.aves@yahoo.com. **Friendship** (41); Jct. 16th Ave. and F, Adams Co.; Jym Mooney, 2183 N 54th St., Milwaukee, WI 53208; 414. 875. 6825; hopmoon@milwpc.com. **Gilman** (25); 1 mile W of Miller Dam, Taylor Co.; Janice Luepke, B-894 Eau Pleine Rd., Spencer, WI 54479; 715. 659. 3910; hawkowl1@frontier.com. **Grantsburg** (17); Jct. Hwys. 70 and 48 in Grantsburg; Dennis Allaman, 506 W. St. George Ave., Grantsburg, WI 54840; 715. 463. 2365; allaman@usa.net. **Green Bay** (49); Jct. Allouez and S. Webster Aves.; John Jacobs, 2373 Libal St., Green Bay, WI 54301; 920. 432. 2438; Jacobs-rs@yahoo.com. **Green Lake** (82); Jct. Hwy. J and Swamp Rd., Green Lake Co.; Thomas Schultz, N6104 Honeysuckle Lane, Green Lake, WI 54941; 920. 294. 3021; trschultz@centurytel.net. **Gurney** (4); Hwy. 169 in Gurney; Joan Elias, 11140 W. Edwards Rd., Saxon, WI 54559; 715. 893. 2358; joan_elias@nps.gov. **Hales Corners** (62); Jct. 27th St. and Rawson Ave., (Milwaukee Co. only); Mark Verhagen, 9701 W. College Ave., Franklin, WI 53123; 414. 425. 8550;

mark.verhagen@ces.uwex.edu. **Hartford** (75); Jct. Hwys. 60 and 83 in Hartford; Thomas B. Schaefer, 3712 Kettle Moraine Rd., Hartford, WI 53027; 262. 825. 8210; schaefertrees@gmail.com. **Hayward** (6); boat landing at Phipps near Hwy. 63, Sawyer Co.; Katie Connolly, Cable Natural History Museum, P.O. Box 416, Cable, WI 54821; 715. 798. 3890; Katie@cablemuseum.org. **Herbster** (1) Hwy. 13, 1 mile W of Herbster; Barbara Moldenhauer, 86405 Bark River Rd., Herbster, WI 54844; 715. 774. 3700; boatbird@msn.com. **Holcombe** (24); Chippewa-Rusk county line, 1 mile E of Hwy. 27; Charles A. Kemper, 727 Maple St., Chippewa Falls, WI 54729; 715. 723. 3815; charleskemper@sbcglobal.net. **Horicon** (86); Jct. Main Ditch and Main Dike in Refuge; Jeff Bahls, 4686 Blackbird Rd, Beaver Dam, WI 53916; 920. 210. 4832; jbahls@wildblue.net. **Hudson** (20); Afton, MN; Joseph Merchak, 210 N. Ilwaco Rd., River Falls, WI 54022; 715. 425. 1169; jmerchak@invergroveheights.org. **Hustisford** (87); Jct. Hwys. CJ and M, just east of Clyman; Noel Cutright, 3352 Knollwood Rd., West Bend, WI 53095; 262. 675. 2443; noel.cutright@we-energies.com. **Kenosha** (64); Jct. Hwys. 158 and 104th Ave. (Kenosha Co. only); Valerie Mann, 9800 160th Ave., Bristol, WI 53104; 262. 857. 8008; naturalist@pringlenc.org. **Kewaunee** (55); Jct. Hwys. 42 and D, Kewaunee Co.; William Mueller, 1242 S. 45 St., Milwaukee, WI 53214; 414. 698. 9108; wpmueller1947@gmail.com. **Kickapoo Valley** (102); Jct. Hwys. T and 131, Monroe Co.; Eric Epstein, 22505 Kensington Rd., Norwalk, WI 54648; 608. 823. 7837; tickcity@centurytel.net. **La Crosse** (32); La Crosse Courthouse; Dan Jackson, S2256 CTH K,

Chaseburg, WI 54621; 608. 483. 2271; DanJackson@LBWhite.com. **La Farge** (too few party hours); La Farge, Vernon County; Jean Stramel, 459 S. Commercial St., Viola, WI 54664; 608. 627. 2009; jeanstr@mwt.net. **Lake Geneva** (80); Interlaken Lodge, Hwy. 50 (approx. 2 M east of Jct. with Hwy 67); Mariette Nowak, N9053 Sift Lake Dr., East Troy, WI 53120; 262. 642. 2352; mmnowak@wi.rr.com. **Lake-wood** (33); Jct. Hwy T and FR 2117, Oconto County; Kay Kavanagh, 712 Lakeview Ln., Niagara, WI 54151; 715. 589. 2299; kkav@uplogon.com. **Luck** (18); Jct. 180 Ave. and 180 St., Polk County; Robin Maercklein, 1216 Tug-
gle Pkwy, Amery, WI 54001; 715. 483. 5278; robinmaercklein2@centurytel.net. **Madison** (91); State Capitol; Aaron Stutz, 125 Phillips Lane, Lake Mills, WI 53551; 920. 648. 3761; agstutz@sbcglobal.net. **Manitowish Waters** (10); Jct. Hwys. 51 and W, Vilas Co.; John Bates, 4245 Hwy. 47, Mercer, WI 54547; 715. 476. 2828; Manitowish@centurytel.net. **Manitowoc** (57); 2 mi. S of Newtonburg; Jim Knickelbine, Woodland Dunes Nature Center, P.O. Box 486, Two Rivers, WI 54241; 920. 793. 4007; nature@woodlanddunes.org. **Meadow Valley** (39); Jct. Jackson, Juneau and Wood Cos.; Andy Paulios, 101 S. Webster St. Madison, WI 53707; 608. 264. 6137; andy.paulios@wi.gov. **Medford** (26); 2.5 miles NE of Whit-
tlesey, Taylor Co.; Joe Scott, 522 Shat-
tuck St., Medford, WI 54451; 715. 965. 3498; joeyramon1@yahoo.com. **Men-
chalville** (71); Menchalville; Jim Knickelbine, Woodland Dunes Nature Center, P.O. Box 486, Two Rivers, WI 54241; 920. 793. 4007; nature@woodlanddunes.org. **Milwaukee** (61); Jct. Port Washington Rd. and Hamp-
ton Ave., Glendale; Andrea Szymczak,

822 Lemira Ave., Waukesha, WI 53188; 262. 370. 8403; harrierhawk1@hotmail.com. **Minoqua** (11); Jct. Hwys. 70 and 51 in Minocqua, Oneida County; Guy David, P.O. Box 462, Lac Du Flambeau, WI 54538; 715. 588. 3694; bgdavid@wildblue.net. **Montello** (83); Harrisville, Marquette Co.; Daryl Christensen, N6053 County Y, Mon-
tello, WI 53949; 608. 296. 3068; daryl@darylchristensen.com. **Mount Horeb** (98); Jct. Hwys. 78 and Bus. 18/151, Mount Horeb; Kerry Beheler, 105 Oak Tree Dr., Mt. Horeb, WI 53572; 608. 437. 6938; kerry.beheler@gmail.com. **Nelson** (21); 1 mile S of Jct. Hwys. I and D; Charles A. Kemper, 727 Maple St., Chippewa Falls, WI 54729; 715. 723. 3815; charles kemper@sbcglobal.net. **New Franken** (50); Jct. Hwys. P and SS, Brown County; Ed Houston, 2818 Sugarbush Ct., Green Bay, WI 54301; 920. 339. 3273; ezehouston@aol.com. **New Richmond** (19); 2 miles E of Board-
man, St. Croix Co.; Joseph Merchak, 210 N. Ilwaco Rd., River Falls, WI 54022; 715. 425. 1169; jmerchak@invergroveheights.org. **Norske** (45); 1 mile E of Jct. Hwy P and Rustad Rd., Waupaca Co.; Jan Hewitt, 1074 E. Paulson Rd., Iola, WI 54945; 715. 445. 2489. **Oconomowoc** (76); Hwy 67, 2 miles N of Oconomowoc; Brad Webb, 321 N. Monroe St., Watertown, WI 53098; 920. 261. 0326; brad@theropod.org. **Oshkosh** (68); Jct. Hwys. 21 and 41 in Oshkosh; Thomas Ziebell, 1638 White Swan Dr., Oshkosh, WI 54901; 920. 235. 0326; cziebell@new.rr.com. **Owen** (27); Hwy. D 2.5 miles N of Hwy. 29, Clark Co.; Gayle Davis, N 1503 Putnam Dr., Owen, WI 54460; 715. 229. 2022; humnbrd@peoplepc.com. **Palmyra** (78); 0.5 miles N of Jct. Hwy 20 and

Nelson Rd., Walworth Co.; Eric Howe, N9564 Nature Rd., Eagle, WI 53119; 262. 594. 5853; cbc@hoyaudubon.org. **Pardeeville** (84); north end of access road that comes from Monthey Rd. into the south side of French Creek Wildlife Area, Columbia Co.; Paul and Glenna Schwalbe, 203 Breezy Point Dr., Pardeeville, WI 53954; 608. 429. 4365; p.g6schwalbe@gmail.com. **Pensaukee** (66); Pensaukee; Thomas Erdman, 4094 Hwy. S, Rte. 2, Oconto, WI 54153; 920. 465. 2713; erdmant@uwgb.edu. **Peshtigo** (65); Harmony Corners, Marinette Co.; Barb Bereza, N3175 County RW, Peshtigo, WI 54157; 715. 582. 0884 Phelps (12); Jct. FR 2199 and FR 2533, 2 miles SW of Phelps; Bill Reardon, 1700 Open Acres Ln., Eagle River, WI 54521; 715. 479. 8055; breardon@nnex.net. **Platteville** (106); Cornelia on Ct. O, Grant Co.; Karl and Dorthy Legler, 429 Franklin St., Sauk City, WI 53583; 608. 643. 4926; karlndot@charter.net. **Plymouth** (73); Jct. Hwys. 23 and C, Sheboygan Co.; Robert Brigham, 851 Chaplin Ct., Plymouth, WI 53073; 920. 892. 7716; rbrigham@wi.rr.com. **Poynette** (89); Jct. Hwys. 51 and CS; Mark and Sue Martin, W7503 Kampen Rd., Arlington, WI 53911; 608. 635. 4160; goosep@chorus.net. **Racine** (63); Hwy. H 0.5 miles S of Hwy. K (Racine Co. only); Eric Howe, N9564 Nature Rd., Eagle, WI 53119; 262. 594. 5853; cbc@hoyaudubon.org. **Randolph** (85); Hwy. P midway between Cambria and Randolph, Columbia Co.; Carl Schwartz, 7239 N. Barnett Lane, Fox Point, WI 53217; 414. 416. 3272; cschwartz3@wi.rr.com. **Retreat** (103); Jct. of Gilman Rd. and Bishop Rd., Vernon County; Chris West, 20262 Jarvis Hollow Rd., Richland Center, WI 53581; 608. 475. 9016;

chris.w.birder@gmail.com. **Rhinelander** (14); Rhinelander; Vanessa Haese-Lehman, 333 E. Rives St., Rhinelander, WI 54501; 715. 369. 3708; markvanlehman@yahoo.com. **Richland Center** (101); Jct. Hwys. O and TB SE of Richland Center; Robert Hirschy, University of Wisconsin Center-Richland, 1200 Hwy. 14 West, Richland Center, WI 53581; 608. 647. 3042; robert.hirschy@uwec.edu. **Riveredge** (60); Jct. Hwy. 33 and Lakeland School Rd., Ozaukee Co.; Mary Hollebeck, c/o Riveredge Nature Center, P.O. Box 26, Newburg, WI 53060; 262. 375. 2715; maryh@riveredge.us. **Rosendale** (81); 2.5 miles S of junc. of Hwys. 23 and 26, Fond du Lac Co.; Seth Cutright, 3352 Knollwood Rd., West Bend, WI 53095; 262. 365. 8716; seth.cutright@gmail.com. **Sauk City** (90); 2.5 miles SE of Witwen, Sauk Co.; Karl and Dorothy Legler, 429 Franklin St., Sauk City, WI 53583; 608. 643. 4926; karlndot@charter.net. **Shawano** (47); 3 miles N of Lunds, Shawano Co.; Tim Ewing, W5646 Lindsten Rd., Shiocton, WI 54170; 715. 758. 6999; nnc@navarino.org. **Sheboygan** (58); Jct. 10th St. and Erie Ave., Sheboygan; Scott Baughman, 3043 Rolling Meadows Dr., Sheboygan, WI 53083; 920. 980. 3191; sbaughman@aerometric.com. **Shiocton** (48); Jct. Hwys. M and 54, Outagamie Co.; Steven Petznick, Mosquito Hill Nature Center, N3880 Rogers Rd., New London, WI 54961; 920. 779. 6433; petznisj@co.outagamie.wi.us. **Spencer** (28); Jct. Hwys. F and 153, Marathon Co.; Janice Luepke, B-894 Eau Pleine Rd., Spencer, WI 54479; 715. 659. 3910; hawkowl1@frontier.com. **Stevens Point** (37); Old Main Bldg., U.W.-Stevens Point; Nancy Stevenson, 1890 Red Pine Ln., Stevens

Point, WI 54481; 715. 341. 0084; gypsysigma@yahoo.com. **Stockbridge** (70); intersection of County BB and Killsnake Rd., Calumet County; Terri Welisek, W4923 Golf Course Rd, Sherwood, WI 54169; 920. 989. 1969; terriw@new.rr.com. **Sturgeon Bay** (52); Jct. Hwys. 57 and P, Door Co.; Charlotte Lukes, 3962 Hillside Rd., Egg Harbor, WI 54209; 920. 823. 2478; Rnclukes@mwmb.net. **Summit Lake** (34); Jct. of Fritzgerald Dam Rd. and T, Langlade Co.; Joel A. Flory, 3131 Pleasure Point Dr., Rhinlander, WI 54501; 715. 490. 3039; joelflory@frontiernet.net. **Three Lakes** (13); 6 miles E of Three Lakes; Bill Reardon, 1700 Open Acres Ln., Eagle River, WI 54521; 715. 479. 8055; breardon@nnex.net. **Trempealeau** (31); Jct. Hwy. K and Fremont St., Trempealeau; Al Wernecke, 23787 Trail View Lane, Trempealeau, WI 54661; 608. 534. 6330; ajja701@triwest.net. **Two Rivers** (56); Mishicot; Jim Knickelbine, Woodland Dunes Nature Center, P.O. Box 486, Two Rivers, WI 54241; 920. 793. 4007; nature@woodlandddunes.org. **Washington Island** (54); Washington Island; Ursula Petersen, 3112 Sunnyside St., Stoughton, WI 53589; 608.

873. 0294; buboarcto@aol.com. **Waterloo** (92); Jct. of Hwys. O and B on Jefferson/Dane county line, 5 miles west of Lake Mills; Karen Etter Hale, 517 Tower St., Lake Mills, WI 53551; 920. 648. 8195; chimneyswift1@frontier.com. **Waukesha** (77); Jct. Hwy. D and Brookhill Rd., Waukesha Co.; Walter Hahn, 213 W. Newhall Ave., Waukesha, WI 53186; 262. 547. 1004. **Waupaca** (44); Jct. Hwy. 49 & Smokey Valley Rd, Waupaca Co.; Jan Hewitt, 1074 E. Paulson Rd., Iola, WI 54945; 715. 445. 2489. **Wausau** (36); Jct. Grand Ave. and Thomas St., Wausau; Lynn Ott, 409 N. 11th St., Wausau, WI 54403 ; 715. 848. 1204; lynn63@frontier.com. **Wautoma** (42); Mount Morris, Waushara Co.; Chip Hutler, W6378 Cty. Rd. YY, Neshkoro, WI 54960; 920. 293. 4500; clhutler@wildblue.net. **Willard** (29); 1 mile E and 1.5 miles S of Willard, Clark Co.; Janice Luepke, B-894 Eau Pleine Rd., Spencer, WI 54479; 715. 659. 3910; hawkowl1@frontier.com. **Wisconsin Rapids** (40); Wisconsin Rapids Airport; Darwin Tiede, 2809 Schaefer Circle, Appleton, WI 54915; 920. 997. 9418; ctiede@new.rr.com.



Blue-gray Gnatcatcher by Bob Larsen

Lessons From the Seasons: Fall 2011

Randy Hoffman

*305 Fifth Street
Waunakee, Wisconsin 53597
ecurlew@hotmail.com*

Social birding networks were buzzing in the fall of 2011. A dozen or so species not normally found in Wisconsin and elsewhere in the upper Midwest captured birders' attention. Almost all of these species are normally found in the southwestern portion of the United States and into Mexico.

Specific details on each species and their significance to Wisconsin birdlife are captured in the seasonal summary. "*By the Wayside*" and the Records Committee Report describe the identification characteristics and nuances of the individual sightings. A sample of the surrounding states indicates that in addition to Wisconsin's plethora of rare birds, Tropical/Couch's Kingbird, Scott's Oriole, Sage Thrasher, Brewer's Sparrow, and Lucy's Warbler travelled to the upper Midwest. While missing the Great Lakes, Ash-throated Flycatchers were found in the northeast states in record numbers. The overall connecting theme was the normal range of all these species is southwest United States or northern Mexico.

The resulting essence of this phenomenon was captured in an article written 15 November 2011 in Wisconsin ebird. The ebird newsletter states

"These birds have a western heritage and all except the Merrill Western Tanager and Rock County Vermilion Flycatcher are along the shore of Lake Michigan or Lake Superior. It is likely that these birds were caught up in some kind of west winds or westerly flow while possibly trying to escape extreme drought and then stopped when they saw a huge body of water ahead of them." Radar and migration expert John Idzikowski explains the details in a recent post to Wisbirdnet: "The reasons why these southwest species are moving at all now should be considered first—some are migrating and perhaps misoriented, some are juveniles that may be dispersing from their natal regions, and some may be moving away from areas of drought or food crop failure. Prof. Ian McLaren, who has studied vagrancy of migrants caused by weather systems in the Canadian Maritimes states that the best way out of a bad situation for a passerine migrant (especially those over the ocean) is using the tailwind to maximize time aloft to find land. Think of the jet as the guiding force providing the path that the weather systems (lows) follow. If a wandering, unoriented bird gets caught in the east side of such a low (remember the

circulation around a low is counter-clockwise) in the southwest it will experience a continuous south or southwest flow of surface winds as it enjoys a tailwind and could easily make it to Wisconsin. When the jet moves north taking lows west of Wisconsin we can expect more vagrants. A cold November generally means a jet that moves east, south of the Midwest, allowing cold air to move in from the north. November is predicted to be warm meaning that the jet should continue a similar pattern favorable for southwest vagrancy."

This explanation gives insight as to how they arrive, but is it accurate? A way to confirm is to find previous years with similar jet stream patterns and compare the occurrences of vagrant birds from the southwest. An extremely similar pattern occurred in both the falls of 2000 and 2001. High pressure over the southeast United States formed a berm, which pushes the jet farther north than normal during the October–December period.

Records of southwestern rarities in Wisconsin peaked in both of those years. Vagrant species such as Broad-billed Hummingbird, Vermillion Flycatcher, Ash-throated Flycatcher, and Rufous-crowned Sparrow thrilled birders back then. This time frame and consistency of weather pattern have supplied the state with some its best and sometimes only rare birds. Gray Vireo, Phainopepla, Black-throated Sparrow, Curve-billed Thrasher, Lesser Goldfinch, and Pyrrhuloxia all were found in the state in October or November.

From the data at hand, it appears this occasional berm formed by imbedded high pressure can push the winds into a consistent pattern of flow.

Oftimes, this pattern can last for two to three months and sometimes longer. These patterns develop in October and mostly last through December.

The theory that southwestern birds in bad situations utilize tail winds to reach the Upper Midwest and even the northeast coast appears to be closer to proof as data continue to accumulate. The next question is why are the birds being disoriented away from their normal migration pathways? If migrating birds were solely at the whim of fickle winds, wouldn't we have countless vagrants every year? There must be mechanisms that trigger birds to head off in wrong directions.

The concept of molt migration is not discussed very often in eastern birding circles. This type of migration appears to be common in western species and quite rare in eastern birds. To grow new feathers birds must have rich food resources to complete the process. The energy needed would be substantially more than just keeping old feathers. Many western migratory species will move to moister resource-rich areas prior to their migration between the breeding grounds and the wintering grounds.

An evaluation of the phenomenal Ash-throated Flycatcher invasion of northeast United States in the fall of 2011 seems to add credence to the molt migration/resources theory. This unprecedented event was mostly adult birds with very worn plumage, whereas most observation from previous years was juvenile birds in fresh plumage. A connection between the severe drought in Texas and New Mexico and Ash-throated Flycatchers seeking resources for molting appears to have great possibilities.

Birders can greatly assist science in refining these theories. Use of social networks and close observation can lead to great detail on plumage and fitness details. Fresh vs worn feathers can indicate much about a bird and can be helpful in understanding the patterns of vagrancy. Discussions among the throngs of birders regarding subtle plumage features can be enlightening to Records Committee and also scientists.

A final inquiry into the question of why do the birds fly in the wrong direction should add even more clarity. Granted molt migrants may not be constrained to the same rules as those migrants keying into the preferred wintering grounds. These birds possibly could be more at the whim of the winds, but that's not highly likely when looking at the advanced systems nearly every other migrating bird uses to locate where they are. When migrating, birds use a multitude of cues to navigate. Star patterns for night migrants, the position of the sun for daytime migrants are relatively obvious. Less well known, but still important, are light from the setting sun, odors, and magnetic fields.

Misorientation seems to fall squarely into the realm of magnetic fields. A hypothesis that birds use a navigational map receive a significant

boost when researchers at Goethe University in Germany found that photopigments in the eye can actually see direction information in their visual field. Birds also have iron-based magnetic receptors in the upper beak that may detect magnetic fields. Much work needs to be completed before a fully proven theory can be established, but speculation regarding what happens when the magnetic fields are disrupted can be enlightening in this discussion.

The activity of the sun is increasing and should reach its peak sometime in 2013. Solar storms that eject massive amounts of energy do have an impact on the earth's magnetic field. These geomagnetic storm effects are especially elevated in regions that have weaker magnetic fields (that is, the farther away from the magnetic poles the weaker the fields). Our sun unleashed massive storms on 22 October 2011 and 3 November 2011. Both of these events were followed closely by the appearance of southwestern migrants in the upper Midwest. It may be a phenomenal coincidence or some validity to the hypothesis could come with research. In fact, the pattern of vagrancy in 2000–01 was not only accompanied by favorable winds, but also similar geomagnetic storms. No proof, but we may be on to something here.



Field Sparrow from David Lund

The Fall Season: 2011

Bob Domagalski

PO Box 396

St. Nazianz, Wisconsin 54232

The summer season, in large part, was hot and sultry. Places such as Milwaukee, reported their fourth warmest July on record. And now we were entering August, the zenith of the summer dog days. And the first day of August was true to that phrase. But, then, on the evening of 2 August, a cool front pushed across the state. A scattering of places in northwestern Wisconsin received as much as 4 to 5 inches of rain. The entire state, from that evening on, had a reprieve from the normal discomforts of a typical August. From a human perspective, August was one of the most pleasant in memory. The day temperatures were warm but not hot; the evening temperatures were mild but not cold. Most days got into the low to mid 80s; most nights fell into the low to mid 60s. Although there were days with puffy cumulus clouds, and although there were days with widely scattered showers, August was mainly a time of blue skies and faint breezes. It was a month with little rain, yet just enough rain to prevent a drought. Even the mosquitos, which were such a menace in July, suddenly vanished. If August was pleasant for humans, it was equally so for migrating birds. Birds were essentially free from the stress of powerful winds and heavy downpours.

Rather than being driven to earth in fallouts, they quietly meandered their way through the state, for the most part beyond the notice of birders. Although passerines were to be found, they were not to be found in the variety and the density birders might enjoy. September put an end to August with a raucous start. On the morning of 2 September, a wind of 70 miles per hour rushed across the state. It was most felt in northeastern Wisconsin where the wind toppled numerous trees, thus causing power outages. Hardest hit were Appleton and the Fox River Valley. After this turbulent introduction, early September became a replica of August. If August was kind to humans, September was even more so. Daily highs were usually in the 70s and evening lows were refreshingly comfortable. The sky was mainly blue and the wind too light to fly a kite. With the lack of west winds and with inland warm temperature, cool breezes blew inland from Lake Michigan. Under these conditions, there was not much to watch in birds along the usually lively migration corridor of Lake Michigan. One was as apt to find migrants, widely scattered as they might be, in the state's interior as bunched along the lakeshore. While Wisconsin was enjoy-

ing this pleasant fall, other parts of the nation were different. The lower south central states, particularly Texas and Oklahoma, were experiencing record-breaking drought and heat and extensive wild fires. The East Coast was experiencing record flooding from Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee.

The first cool front of any significance came on 14 September. The weather on 13 September was hot, with temperatures in the high 80s and a strong south wind. The next day the wind changed from the south to become a stiff wind from the northwest. On the morning of 15 September birders woke to find frost on the roofs of homes and on the windshields of cars. The first half of October returned to warm and quiet. Under mainly sunny, calm skies the temperature often reached the mid-80s. This came to a quick end on 14 October with powerful west winds. The strong winds lasted for nearly a week. It is on these west wind days in the latter half of fall that Wisconsin birders are likely to find rarities. These last years have brought few fall birds of any great note to our state. This fall was different. As one reads the reports on hawk migrations, it will be noticed how large the movement was on 14–15 October, especially along Lake Michigan. But these hawks were a minor story compared to the sudden appearance of numerous rare western and south-western species. What had been, to this point, a dull fall for birds turned into one of the more memorable in history. Among the finds that might be linked to this period of wind were Black Vulture (17 October at Cedar Grove along Lake Michigan), Swainson's Hawk (14 October at Cedar

Grove along Lake Michigan), Golden Eagle (14 October at Cedar Grove), Inca Dove (first noticed 28 October at Concordia University along Lake Michigan in Ozaukee County), Rufous Hummingbird (16 October), Broad-billed Hummingbird (first noticed on 14 November in Mequon, Ozaukee County), Say's Phoebe (29 October at Kohler-Andrea SP along Lake Michigan in Sheboygan County), Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (first seen on 31 October near Lake Michigan in Kewaunee County), a Vermillion Flycatcher (first noticed on 5 November at Muskrat Lake in Rock County), and Townsend's Solitaire (found on 21 October at Harrington Beach along Lake Michigan in Ozaukee County and then on 24 October in Bayfield County). The first snow beyond the northern tier of counties arrived on 9 November. By the end of the fall season, much of the state was free of snow and those areas showing snow had mainly but a veneer. Going into the winter season, inland lakes of any size held open water. Thus was the entry into what became a warm, dry winter.

Last fall was claimed to have had the best coverage of the state in the history of the fall reports. This year the coverage was even better. The number of birders sending WSO Seasonal Field Report Forms was several times over the number reporting the year before. THANKS! In addition, the number of ebird reports increased nearly 10 per cent. With the help of ebird, there were fall reports from 71 of Wisconsin's 72 counties. The one absent county was Menominee. Counties reporting fewer than 50 species to ebird were Barron (44), Calumet (29), Lafayette (40), Marquette (41),



Pepin (15), Pierce (42), Price (37), Rusk (15), Shawano (21), and Taylor (47). These 11 counties with fewer than 50 species were more than double the 5 such counties from the fall before. Last fall there were 5 counties with 200 or more species (Columbia, Dane, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, and Waukesha). This fall there were 6 such counties. Those 6 were Dane (228), Manitowoc (223), Waukesha (214), Ozaukee (212), Milwaukee (208), and Racine (206). Outside of the south-

eastern corner of the state, the county with the most species was Bayfield with 187. For the fall season (from all the various sources of information), a total of 309 species were reported. This compares to 305 for the previous fall. Among the significant species were Eurasian Wigeon, King Eider, Pacific Loon, Black Vulture, Red Phalarope, Inca Dove (the first state record, becoming state species number 435), Broad-billed Hummingbird (the second state record), Say's



Figure 1. King Eider was caught in the act of having a tasty crayfish in Lake Michigan on 28 November 2011 by Tom Prestby.

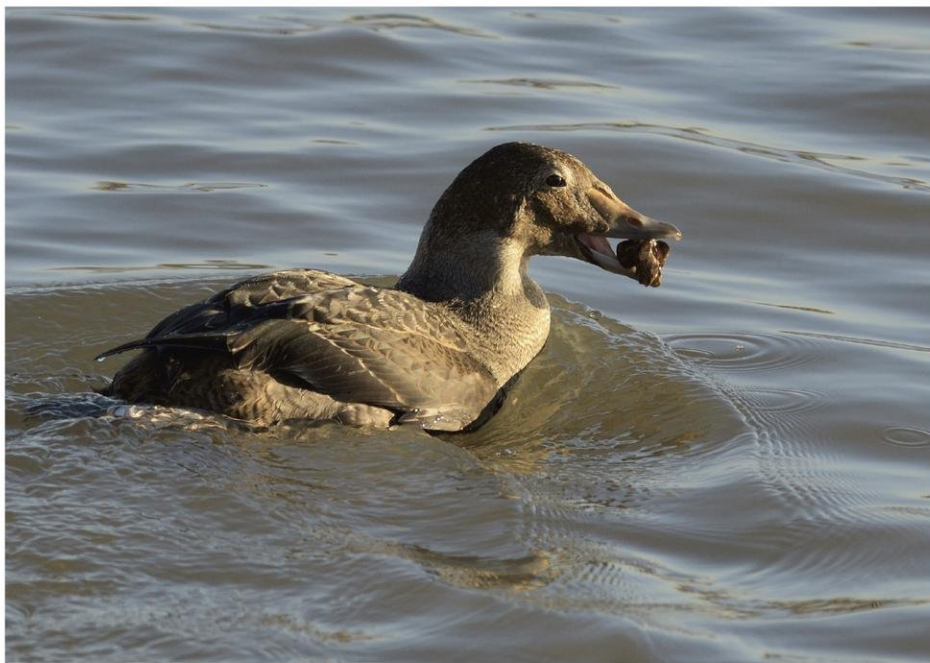


Figure 2. King Eider in Lake Michigan behind the Milwaukee Art Museum was seen eating a crunchy breakfast on 30 November 2011 by Tom Wright. It seemed to be a well fed bird.



Figure 3. Pacific Loon photographed by Tom Prestby on 24 September 2011 near Wisconsin Point in Douglas County.

Phoebe, Vermilion Flycatcher (the first state find that numerous birders were able to observe), Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Spotted Towhee, and Western Tanager.

REPORTS

(1 August to 30 November 2010)

Species marked with “*” needed long-form documentation to be valid.

Greater White-fronted Goose—The counties reporting this species were Dane, Grant, Jefferson, Portage, Washington, and

Waukesha. The first report was on 8 September in Dane County (Lindemer). The next find was not until 19 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (Fischer and McKay). The 8 September find was record early. The old record had been 10 September (set in 1994 in Winnebago County by Don Nussbaum). The last fall report was 28 November in Jefferson County (Pendergast), with a number of such geese found into the winter season. The high count was 32 on 19 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County.

Snow Goose—The only August report was 27 August in Brown County (Sinkula). This was followed by 10 September in Douglas County (Kraemer and Svingen) and 14 September in Iowa County (Romano). Snow Geese were reported to the end of the fall season and into the winter season. The high counts were 80 on 5 October in Dodge County (the Horicon Marsh staff) and 57 on 7 November in Iowa County (A. Holschbach).

Ross’s Goose—The Ross’s was reported from the counties of Bayfield, Burnett, Dane, and Dodge. The first find was on 13–14 September in Bayfield County (Anich and Brady). One Ross’s was found on 30 September in Dane County (Pfeiffer) and remained until 3 October (Thiessen). It was likely a second individual spotted in Dane County on 23 November (Lindemer and Thiessen). Two birds were reported from Horicon Marsh in Dodge County on 1 October (a number of observers). The Burnett County find on 24 October was of 5 birds (Java).

Cackling Goose—This was a good fall for the Cackling Goose. It was found in 40 counties. The first report was 4 September in Winnebago County (Ziebell) followed by 8 September in Sauk County (A. Holschbach). Strong numbers



Figure 4. Pacific Loon (right bird) with two Common Loons near Washburn in Bayfield County on 30 October 2011 by Ryan Brady.

remained into the mild winter season. The high count was 115 on 28 October in Dane County (Thiessen) followed by 86 on 23 November in Dane County (Thiessen).

Canada Goose—The high count was 5,000 on 25 November at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Hahn) and 5,000 on 13 November in Taylor County (Risich).

Mute Swan—Despite the fact that the Mute is a nesting species in the state and that there were a number of fall reports (with reports extending into the winter season), there were but two finds in the month of August. Those two were 17 August in Ashland County (Lynn) and 19–21 August in Door County (Wegner). The high counts were 24 on 14 November in Racine County (DeBoer), 18 on 4 November in Racine County (Gustafson), and 16 on 29 October in Door County (Schilke).

Trumpeter Swan—The counties reporting this nesting species in the month of August were Adams, Ashland, Burnett, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Juneau, and Polk. As this is a permanent resident, there were numerous reports into the winter season. The high counts were 111 and 93 on 22–23 November in Polk County (Maercklein). These were followed by 78 on 29 November in Buffalo County (Betchkal).

Tundra Swan—The first reports were 5 October in Ashland County (Brady), 8 October in Ashland County (Anich and Krerowicz), and 10 October in Dodge County (Cimino). Because of the mild winter, large numbers of Tundra were found well into December. The Tundra Swan is known to gather along the Mississippi River in the southwestern part of the state. It was here that the high counts were found. The highest by far was 10,000 on 11 November in Vernon County (Stark). This was followed by 4,000 on 16 November in Vernon County (Paulios), 3,000 on 12 November in Vernon County (Paulios), and 2,290 on 12 November in Crawford County (Howe and Wenzel).

Wood Duck—The last fall dates were 21 November in Milwaukee County (Bontly), 27 November in Ozaukee County (Frank), and 29 November in Waukesha County (Gustafson). As is common, especially in mild years, a number of these ducks lingered into the winter season. The high counts were 450 on 6 September in La Crosse County (Puchalski), 359 on 22 August in Waukesha County (Gustafson), and 300 on 20 August in Fond du Lac County (Swelstad).

Gadwall—Although a nesting species within the state, the only early season report was from the Horicon Marsh in Fond du Lac County (Tessen). Found at or near the end of the season in a number of counties, with some individuals remaining into the winter season. All high counts came from the Mississippi River in the southwestern corner of the state. The highest of these were 1,500 on 31 October in Vernon County (Stratton), 800 on 28 October in Vernon County (Paulios), and 650 on 10 November in La Crosse County (Puchalski).

Eurasian Wigeon*—This wigeon was documented by Akers, A. Holschbach, McKay, Stark, T. Wood, and Yoerger on 10–12 November from Potosi Landing in Grant County. It becomes the seventh fall record for this species.

American Wigeon—Although known to nest within the state, the only early August reports were from the counties of Brown (the Kavanaghs), Fond du Lac (Tessen), Manitowoc (Sontag), and Outagamie (Swelstad). This wigeon was reported at or near the end of the season in a number of counties, with some individuals remaining into the winter season. All of the high counts came from Vernon County with the best being 1,000 on 23 October (Puchalski) followed by 750 on 9 November (Puchalski).

American Black Duck—Although known to nest within the state, the first report was not until 13 August in Manitowoc County (Sontag). This was followed by 14 August in Florence County (the Kavanaghs) and 16 August in Eau Claire County (Cullen). As usual, the high count came from Bay Beach, Brown County, with 130 on 15 November (K. Kavanagh). Outside of Bay Beach, the high was 50 on 6 November in Ashland County (Knickelbine).

Mallard—The high counts were 5,000 on 2 November in La Crosse County (Puchalski), 2,500 on 9 November in Vernon County (Puchalski), and 2,000 on 25 November in Vernon County (Stratton).

Blue-winged Teal—The last dates were 10 November in Manitowoc County (Domagalski), 13 November in Rock County (Bucci), and 21 November in Dodge County (Longhenry). The high count was 550 on 5 September in Jefferson County (Dixon, Howe, and Wenzel) followed by 500 on 9 September in Fond du Lac County (Dixon and Wenzel).

Northern Shoveler—The only reports near the start of the season were from the counties of Brown (the Kavanaghs), Dane (Nichols),

and Portage (Schaufenbuel). Numbers of this species stayed into the winter season. The high count was 300 on 12 November in Dane County (Schwarz) followed by 275 on 19 November in Rock County (Boone and Fitzgerald).

Northern Pintail—Finds during the month of August were 4 August in Outagamie County (Tessen), 21 August in Fond du Lac County (Schaefer and Szymczak), 22 August in Dodge County (West), 24 August in Clark County (Belter), and 30 August in Ashland County (Anich). The last fall find was on 27 November in La Crosse County (Rownd). A number of individuals were then found into the winter period. The big numbers for this species seemed to be on the Mississippi River in the southwestern corner of the state. Puchalski reported from Vernon County numbers ranging from 500 to 1,000 in the period 21 October through 9 November; Stratton reported from Vernon County numbers ranging from 200 to 500 in the period 18 October through 20 November. Paulios in Vernon County found 600 on 28 October.

Green-winged Teal—The last fall dates were 28 November in Dane County (Ellis and Schwarz) and 30 November in Columbia County (Paulios). Due to a mild late fall and early winter, Green-winged Teal were found into the winter season. The high counts were 537 on 25 November in La Crosse County (Puchalski), 350 on 10 November in La Crosse County (Puchalski), and 315 on 7 November from the Trempealeau NWR in Trempealeau County.

Canvasback—There were no reports for August. The only September report was on 1 September in Ozaukee County (Frank). The next find was not until 7 October in Ozaukee County (Duerksen) followed by 13 October in Dane County (Sonzogni). As usual, the largest numbers of Canvasbacks gathered on the Mississippi River in the southwestern corner of the state. The highest count was 15,000 on 12 November in Crawford County (Howe, Coombs, and Wenzel). In the period 27 October through 20 November, numbers in the range of 2,000 to 8,500 were reported from Vernon County, with the high count of 8,500 on 27 October (Paulios). Canvasbacks were reported from a number of counties near the end of the season, with strong numbers remaining into the winter season.

Redhead—Although a nesting species within the state, the only early season reports were from the counties of Fond du Lac (Tessen), Manitowoc (Sontag), Outagamie

(Swelstad and Tessen), and Winnebago (Ziebell). The next report was on 16 August in Dane County (Prestby). Redheads remained through the rest of the season and well into the winter season. The high counts were 450 on 15 October in Portage County (Pendergast), 420 on 29 October in Door County (Schilke), and 350 on 2 November in Shawano County (Tessen).

Ring-necked Duck—Although a nesting species within the state, the only August reports were 17 August in Dane County (Lindemer), 26 August in Columbia County (A. Holschbach), and 28 August in Burnett County (Paulios and Swelstad). With the aid of a mild fall and early winter, numbers of Ring-necked remained into the winter season. The high counts came from the Trempealeau NWR in Trempealeau County. In the period 24 October through 7 November, this refuge held 1,550 to 1,755 Ring-necked with the high of 1,755 coming on 31 October.

Greater Scaup—Reported throughout the period in Manitowoc County by Sontag. As early as 1 August, Sontag was finding 8 individuals. The next finds were not until 9 September in Bayfield County (Brady) followed by 18 September in Ashland County (Brady) and 19 September in Burnett County (Mertins). The high count was 875 on 28 November in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) followed by 500 on 31 October in Bayfield County (Anich).

Lesser Scaup—Reported at the start of the season in Winnebago County (Ziebell). The first migrants were 11 September in Brown County (Schultz) following by 15 September in the counties of Ashland (Anich) and Bayfield (Anich). The high count was 500 on 2 November in Portage County (Janz) followed by 450 on 15 October in Portage County (Janz).

King Eider*—A great many birders had close views of a first year male King Eider that was by the Art Center along the lakefront in Milwaukee County in the period 27–30 November (Figs. 1 and 2).

Harlequin Duck—The Harlequin was found in two counties. Found on 6 November in Douglas County (Willard) and then from 3 to 30 November in Milwaukee County (first found by Lubahn and Tessen). Both finds were of single birds.

Surf Scoter—This scoter was first found on 18 September in Bayfield County (Brady) followed by numerous reports from the WSO Field Trip to Wisconsin Point in Douglas County on



Figure 5. Western Grebe was noted off Sheboygan marina by Georgia birder Paul Gloyer on 24 November 2011, Sheboygan County.



Figure 6. Swainson's Hawk captured at Cedar Grove Banding Station on 14 October 2011, Sheboygan County.



Figure 7. Golden Eagle captured at Cedar Grove Banding Station on 15 October 2011 is being admired by Dan Berger.



Figure 8. The same Golden Eagle at Cedar Grove Banding Station is being held by John Bowers, 15 October 2011, Sheboygan County.

23–24 September. As usual, most counties bordering Lakes Michigan and Superior made reports. But there were a surprising number of inland counties also reporting. These inland counties were Barron, Dane, Florence, Jefferson, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Sauk, and Waukesha. Found at or near the end of the season in the counties of Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Sauk, and Sheboygan with individuals remaining into the winter season. The high count was 20 on 13 November in Milwaukee County (Lubahn).

White-winged Scoter—The first find was of a single bird at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County in the period 23–25 September (numerous birders from the WSO Field Trip). The next discovery was not until 15 October in Ozaukee County (Tessen) followed by 21–22 October at Pelican Lake, Oneida County (Prestby and the Kavanaghs). This scoter was reported at or near the end of the period in the counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Columbia, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Sauk, and Sheboygan. Inland counties in which it was seen were Columbia, Dane, Oneida, Portage, Sauk, Vernon, and Winnebago. The Oneida County report had 14 individuals. The high count for the state was 25 on 31 October at Forest Beach, Ozaukee County (Schaefer).

Black Scoter—The only September reports were 15–27 September in Bayfield County (first by Anich) and 30 September in Douglas County (Svingen). The 15 September find by Anich was record early. The record arrival date had been 20 September (set in 2007 in Douglas County by Tessen). The Black Scoter was found at or near the end of the period in the counties of Dane, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, and Ozaukee. Inland counties with this scoter were Dane, Marathon, Monroe, and Portage. The high count was 23 on 30 October at Wind Point in Racine County (Hertz).

Long-tailed Duck—The first finds were 19 October in Door County (C. & R. Lukes), 21–22 October at Pelican Lake in Oneida County (Prestby and the Kavanaghs), and 21–22 October at Harrington Beach in Ozaukee County (Frank and Swelstad). The Long-tailed was reported at or near the end of the period in the counties of Bayfield, Door, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Sheboygan. Inland counties with reports were Marathon, Oneida, Portage, and Washington. At Point Beach SP, Manitowoc County large numbers were found, with the high count being 10,000 on 15 November (Tessen). These high numbers continued into the winter season.

Bufflehead—Likely due to the mild fall this duck, as with other divers, arrived later than usual. The only September reports were of one bird on 12 September in Dane County (Thiessen), one bird on 24 September in Douglas County (Heikkinen), and 28 September in Douglas County (the LaValleys). The next find was not until 1 October in the counties of Door (Charlotte & Roy Lukes) and Ozaukee (Tessen). The high count was 300 on 25 November in Vernon County (Stratton) followed by 200 on 8 November in Vilas County (Jim Baughman).

Common Goldeneye—The earliest reports were in the period 9 August through 2 September in Door County (Collins and Costoff). The next find was 3 September in Bayfield County (Anich and Brady) followed by 17 September in Ashland County (Krerowicz). Numbers for this species did not go over 100 individuals until the latter half of November. The high count was 208 on 23 November in Jefferson County (Etter-Hale).

Hooded Merganser—Although a rather widespread nesting species, the only early season reports came from the counties of Chippewa, Door, Florence, Manitowoc, Ozaukee, Portage, and Waukesha. There were a number of reports extending into the winter season. The high counts were 150 on 18 November in Dane County (Thiessen), 120 on 19 October in Oneida County (Peczynski and Prestby), and 100 on 21 October in Oneida County (Prestby).

Common Merganser—Reported near the start of the season in the nesting counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Door, Sawyer, and Vilas. The high count was 133 on 17 November in Vilas County (Jim Baughman) followed by 105 on 3 October in Ashland County (Brady).

Red-breasted Merganser—The first report was of one bird on 31 August in Kewaunee County (Gustafson). This was followed by reports from Douglas County starting on 13 September and extending into October. The Douglas County mergansers were first reported by Lewis, followed by nearly daily reports from Svingen. Starting with 29 October and extending into the winter season, counts of 1,000+ individuals were common from the counties of Door, Kewaunee, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, and Sheboygan. The high count was 5,000 on 30 November in Ozaukee County (Heikkinen, Fissel, and Schwarz).

Ruddy Duck—Found near the start of the season in the counties of Brown, Columbia,

Dodge, Fond du Lac, Outagamie, and Winnebago. Numbers of Ruddy remained into the winter season. The high count was 2,000+ at Lake Altoona, Eau Claire County (Polk). In the period 24 October through 7 November, numbers ranging from 1,100 to 1,400 were reported from the Trempealeau NWR, Trempealeau County.

Northern Bobwhite—This rapidly vanishing species was noticed in only four counties. The Columbia County report for 21 August (Dischler) was heard only and the birder wondered whether the bird was wild or not. The report from Kenosha County was of released birds. The 7 September report from Walworth County (Mye) was of 3 birds and their origin might be questioned. The fourth was the unlikely nesting county of Door (C. & R. Lukes). It is possible that nothing of the native population was found this fall.

Gray Partridge—Although it is an introduced bird, this species is also vanishing from the Wisconsin landscape. There were no fall reports.

Ring-necked Pheasant—Pheasants were reported from 27 counties, the most northern being Barron, Polk, and St. Croix. The high count was 9 from Polk County (Maerchlein).

Ruffed Grouse—This grouse was reported from 25 counties. The only southern counties were Grant (McKay), Green (Gustafson), and Vernon (Roth-Reynolds). The high count was 6 from Florence County (K. Kavanagh).

Spruce Grouse—Reported from the counties of Ashland, Forest, Oneida, and Vilas. The high count was 5 from various birders on various dates in Vilas County.

Sharp-tailed Grouse—The only reports were from Crex Meadows, Burnett County with the high count being 3 on 21 October (P. Campbell).

Greater Prairie-Chicken—The only reports were from the Buena Vista Grasslands of Portage County. The high count was 25 on 25 November (Scott Meyer).

Wild Turkey—The turkey was found in all parts of the state including all of the counties bordering Lake Superior and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The high count was 58 in Florence County (K. Kavanagh) followed by 45 in Juneau County (Goff).

Red-throated Loon—Reported from the Lake Superior counties of Bayfield and Douglas plus the Lake Michigan counties of Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Sheboygan. Inland reports came from the counties of Dane, Langlade, and Portage. The first find was on 23 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Tessen) followed by 8–9 October in Douglas County (R. Johnson and Svingen) and 29 October in the counties of Manitowoc (Domagalski) and Ozaukee (Schaefer and Tessen). The only count greater than 3 was of 7 on 26 November at Harrington Beach in Ozaukee County (Fitzgerald and Prestby). A number of these loons were found into the winter season.

Pacific Loon*—A Pacific Loon was first documented on 24 September at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (Fig. 3) by members of the WSO field trip. The next finds were 27 October in Ozaukee County (T. Wood) and 29 October (Fig. 4) in Bayfield County (Brady). Other accepted reports were 11–23 November in Bayfield County (Anich) and 15 November in Oconto County (K. Kavanagh). All reports were of single birds.

Common Loon—The first find beyond its nesting range was on 14 August at Harrington Beach, Ozaukee County (Schaefer and Szymczak). The next such sighting was not until 22 September in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) followed by 24 September in Dane County (Martin). Beyond that, the next discoveries were not until 16 October in Portage County (Janz) and 17 October in Racine County (Howe). Likely due to the mild fall, a number of Common Loons remained into the winter season. The high count was 107 on 21 October at Harrington Beach in Ozaukee County (Frank) followed by 75 on 30 October in Bayfield County (Brady and Oksiuta).

Pied-billed Grebe—Found at or near the end of the season in the counties of Columbia, Dane, Milwaukee, Portage, Sauk, Vernon, Waukesha, and Winnebago. A number of individuals remained into the winter season. The high count was 57 on 3 October at Big Muskego Lake, Waukesha County (Gustafson) followed by 50 on 21 August at Horicon March in Dodge County (Grgic and Schroeder).

Horned Grebe—This grebe was first found on 27 August at Harrington Beach, Ozaukee County (Schaefer and Szymczak). Three individuals were noted that day. The next find was over the period 29 August through 6 September at Fischer Creek, Manitowoc County (Domagalski). On 30 August, 32 individuals were



Figure 9. Buff-breasted Sandpiper on 3 September near Washburn in Bayfield County was photographed by Nick Anich.



Figure 10. Red Phalarope at Wind Point in Racine was photographed by Dennis Gustafson on 7 November. Note the pale rust on the throat.



Figure 11. Red Phalarope near North Point off Sheboygan was pictured by Quetin Yoerger on 14 November 2011.



Figure 12. Red Phalarope off Sheboygan shore on 15 November 2011 by Carl Schroeder.

counted here by Tessen. The next sightings were on 5 September in the counties of Bayfield (Anich) and Iron (Severson). Likely due to the mild fall, a strong number of Horned Grebes remained into the winter season. The high count was 300 on 9 October in Ozaukee County (Tessen) followed by 128 on 29 October at Wind Point in Racine County (Hertz).

Red-necked Grebe—One bird was noticed on 3 August at Beaver Dam Marsh, Waukesha County (Szymczak). This is the location where Red-necked were confirmed for breeding in 2010. The next finds were 4 September in Door County (C. & R. Lukes) followed by 10 September in Douglas County (Kraemer and Svingen). This grebe was reported from an additional 12 counties with the last fall finds being on 26 November in Ozaukee County (Fitzgerald and Prestby) and 28 November in Milwaukee County (Pendergast, Prestby, and Tessen). Several such grebes were reported into the winter season. The high count was 5 on 22 October at Pelican Lake, Oneida County (the Kavanaghs).

Western Grebe—Reported from Douglas County on 17–20 September (first noticed by Robbye Johnson) and Oneida County on 1 October (Anich). Last report was on 24 November at the Sheboygan Marina, Sheboygan County, when Georgia birder, Paul Gloyer, took a photo (Fig. 5). All finds were of single birds.

Double-crested Cormorant—Found at or near the end of the period in the counties of Brown, Dodge, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Sauk, and Winnebago. A good number of cormorants remained into the winter season. The high count was 9,000 on 15 October in Ozaukee County (Tessen) followed by 2,000 on 3 September in Brown County (Swelstad).

American White Pelican—Noted at or near the start of the season in the counties of Brown, Dodge, Door, Jefferson, Marathon, Outagamie, and Winnebago. The finding of 8 along the Mississippi River on 6 August in Crawford County (West) could be of early migrants. By 13 August, reported from Trempealeau County (Malcom) and, on 14 August, reported from La Crosse County (Malcom). Found at or near the end of the season in the counties of Brown and Vernon. As usual, a number of pelicans remained into the winter period. The high count on the nesting grounds was 800 on 2 August at the mouth of the Fox River in Brown County (the Kavanaghs) followed by 400 on 20–21 August at Horicon Marsh in Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties (Schultz and Swelstad). The highest count found during migration along the

Mississippi River was 500 on 23 October in Vernon County (Puchalski).

American Bittern—This bittern was reported from 16 counties with the highest count being 5 on 28 October at Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (Weber). This 28 October date was also the last date reported for the season. The nearest dates to this were 22 October in Milwaukee County (Wiskowski) and 23 October in Taylor County (Cameron).

Least Bittern—Counties reporting this bittern were Brown, Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Outagamie, and Waukesha. The last date was 3 September in Dane County (Tallard). There were no counts of better than 2 birds.

Great Blue Heron—As is customary, especially in years with mild falls and winters, a good number of Great Blue Herons survived into the winter season. The high count was 112 on 6 August in Waukesha County (Mertins) followed by 40 on 28 August in Dodge County (Mertins) and on 5 August in Marathon County (Prestby).

Great Egret—This egret was found in 33 counties with a large percentage of the reports coming from Horicon Marsh in Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties. The last dates were 4 November in Jefferson County (Stutz), 7 November in Dodge County (Mooney), and 7 November in Fond du Lac County (Frank). There were numerous reports of 150+ egrets at Horicon Marsh. The high counts at Horicon were 456 on 28 August (Thiessen) and 300 on 14 August (Mertins).

Cattle Egret—The only counties reporting this egret were Dodge (7 September, one bird), Portage (3–5 November, three birds), and Winnebago (16 and 28 September, one and two birds).

Green Heron—The last dates were 9 October in Dane County (Schneider), 7–11 October in Waukesha County (Gustafson), and 12 October in Waukesha County at a different location than the previous report (Mertins). The high counts were 41 on 25 August in Jefferson County (Henrikson) and 33 on 14 August in Kenosha County (Dixon).

Black-crowned Night-Heron—This heron was found in 18 counties, with the largest number of reports coming from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties. The last Horicon date was 27 October (Mooney). Dates beyond this were 7 November in Milwaukee County (Boyle) and 12 November in Buffalo

County (Cameron). The high counts were 25 on 13 August at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Mooney) and 25 on 20 August in Outagamie County (Swelstad).

Plegadis Ibis—A *Plegadis ibis* was documented at Horicon Marsh in Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties on 1–6 November and again on 14 November (Tessen and Yoerger).

Black Vulture—One was seen on 17 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County (H. Mueller). This was the eighth state record, with the last fall find dating back to 1996 at this same location.

Turkey Vulture—This year, due to the mild fall and winter, this vulture was found in a record number of locations in the winter season. Despite the strong winter showing, this vulture was found in only six counties in November. The last dates were 11 November in Grant County (Stark), 12 November in Jefferson County (Etter Hale), 12 November in Racine County (DeBoer), and 13 November in Waukesha County (Szymczak). The high count was 185 at the Eagle Valley Preserve in Grant County (Stark) followed by 81 on 10 August in Waukesha County (Frank).

Osprey—The last dates were 5 November in Dane County (Schwarz), 6 November at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Hahn, Prestby, and Yoerger), and 10 November at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County. The high count was 12 on 24 August at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station, Sheboygan County.

Bald Eagle—All of the high counts came from the Mississippi River in the southwest corner of state. These high counts began in mid-November, suggesting that this is when eagles begin clustering along the river. All counts of 100+ came from Grant and Vernon Counties, with the highest total being 239 on 10 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay).

Northern Harrier—This harrier was found throughout the season. The high count was 23 on 15 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County followed by 19 on 15 October at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Frank).

Sharp-shinned Hawk—Found at or near the start of the season in the nesting counties of Bayfield, Door, Douglas, Florence, Marinette, and Taylor. The high counts from raptor watch spots were 486 on 15 October at the Cedar

Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County, 441 on 15 October at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Frank), 292 on 15 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Schaefer), and 244 on 11 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (Stark). It would seem that 15 October was a prime day to be viewing Sharpies along Lake Michigan. High numbers were also found along Lake Michigan on 14 October.

Cooper's Hawk—The high counts were 69 on 16 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County, 62 on 11 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (Stark), and 24 on 15 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (many observers).

Northern Goshawk—The only August reports were from the nesting counties of Douglas (the LaValleys), Florence (the Kavanaghs), Marinette (K. Kavanagh), and Oconto (K. Kavanagh). Other counties showing Goshawks at a later date were Bayfield, Douglas, Grant, Lincoln, Milwaukee, Portage, Racine, Sheboygan, and Waukesha. All reports were of single birds.

Red-shouldered Hawk—Reported from 24 counties. The last reports were 19 November in Washburn County (Crowson), 20 November in Ozaukee County (Frank), and 21 November in Dodge County (Curnett). As usual, a number of Red-shouldered were found into the winter season. The high count was 6 on 10 November at Eagle Valley, Grant County (McKay).

Broad-winged Hawk—The last dates were 22 October in Marathon County (Hoeft) and 24 October in Vernon County (Roth-Reynolds). There were no large-sized kettles. The high count was 73 on 14 September at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay and Schmitz) followed by 30 on 24 September in Rock County (Cullum).

Swainson's Hawk—Single birds were reported from the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County on 24 August and 14 October (Fig. 6), (H. Mueller).

Red-tailed Hawk—The high count was 181 on 10 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay) followed by 69 on 16 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County.

Rough-legged Hawk—The first reports were 16 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (N. Cutright), 16 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan



Figure 13. Red Phalarope at North Beach in Racine on 25 November 2011 was photographed by Jenny Wenzel.



Figure 14. Black-legged Kittiwake that put in an appearance in Rock County where the Vermilion Flycatcher was hanging out was pictured by Eric Howe on 6 November 2011.



Figures 15 and 16. Inca Dove at Concordia University in Ozaukee County became a first state record. Dave Freriks recorded it on 2 November 2011.

County, and 24 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Schaefer). The high count was 11 on 14 November in Portage County (Schaufenbuel).

Golden Eagle—Reported from the counties of Grant (McKay), Jackson (Fissel), Marinette (J. Campbell), Milwaukee (Wiskowski), Monroe (Epstein), Outagamie (Petznick), Sauk (A. Holschbach), and Sheboygan (the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station). The first find was on 15 September at the Mosquito Hill Nature Center in Outagamie County (Petznick) followed by 15 October at Cedar Grove in Sheboygan County (Figures 7 and 8), and 17 October in Monroe County (Epstein). All reports were of single birds.

American Kestrel—The high count was 36 on 8 August at the Buena Vista Grasslands in Portage County (Schaufenbuel) followed by 28 on 14 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County and 27 on 14 October at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Frank).

Merlin—Found at or near the start of the season in the nesting counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Door, Pierce, Sawyer, and Vilas. A bird reported on 6 August from Vernon Marsh, Waukesha County (Wilson) was an unusually early migrant. The next finds south of the nesting counties were 16 August in Marinette County (J. Campbell), 17 August in Florence County (K. Kavanagh), and 18 August in Manitowoc County (Sontag). As is customary, a number of Merlins were found into the winter season. The high counts were 209 on 15 October at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Frank), 156 on 15 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Schaefer), and 148 on 14 October at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Frank). As with the Sharp-shinned Hawk, the period 14–15 October was a great time to be watching for Merlins along Lake Michigan.

Peregrine Falcon—Reported from 28 counties and found throughout the season. The high counts were 50 on 29 September at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County, 33 on 29 September at Concordia University in Ozaukee County (Frank), 14 on 14 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (many observers), and 11 on 11 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (Stark).

Yellow Rail—The only report was of a bird heard on 29 August in Clark County (Risch).

Virginia Rail—Reported from 17 counties. The last fall report was on 29 October from Lulu Lake, Walworth County (Howe). Rails were subsequently found at this location in December of 2011 and February of 2012, indicating they had overwintered. The high count was 7 on 21 August at Thunder Lake, Oneida County (Peczynski).

Sora—Reported from 30 counties. The last dates were 11 October in Portage County (Pendergast), 12 October in Portage County at a different location than the previous report (Schaufenbuel), and 12 October in Dane County (Grant Frank). Well beyond these was a find on 11 November in Waukesha County (Kingery). The high counts were 20 on 25 September in Burnett County (Paulios) and 10 on 20 September in Waukesha County (Gustafson).

Common Gallinule—Reported from 13 counties, with the most northern being Door, Outagamie, and Portage. The last dates were 5 October in Portage County (Pendergast and Schaufenbuel) and 12 October in Milwaukee County (Cimino). There were a number of double digit counts from the Zeloski Marsh, Jefferson County with the highest being 28 on 21 August (Prestby and Yoerger).

American Coot—Found throughout the season with large numbers remaining into the winter season. There were 13 counties with reports of 1,000+. The counties along the Mississippi River in the southwestern corner of the state had the most consistent totals of 1,000+. These counties were Crawford, Grant, La Crosse, Trempealeau, and Vernon. High counts were 8,000 on 2 November in Shawano County (Tessen), 6,000 on 12 November in Crawford County (Coombs, Howe, and Wenzel), and 5,500 on 16 November in Vernon County (Paulios).

Sandhill Crane—Due to the mild fall and early winter, large numbers of cranes remained into the winter season. The highest fall count was 4,500 on 25 November in Burnett County (Birch) followed by 1,700 on 1 October in Burnett County (Schroeder).

Whooping Crane—This reintroduced crane was reported from the counties of Adams, Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Dunn, Juneau, Marathon, Monroe, Portage, and Walworth. The high count was 16 on 7 November at the Necedah NWR in Juneau County (Kaberle).

Black-bellied Plover—There was a fall arrival report from the summer season on 31 July in Outagamie County (Swelstad). The first fall season finds were 11 August in Door County (C. & R. Lukes) followed by 14 August at Horicon Marsh, Fond du Lac County (Fissel). This plover remained into November in six counties, with the last find being on 11 November at Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (Mooney). The high counts were 110 on 1 October at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Tessen) and 70 on 7 November at the Horicon Marsh in Fond du Lac County (Tessen).

American Golden-Plover—There were no fall arrival reports from the summer season. The first fall finds were 15 August in Sauk County (A. Holschbach and McDonald) followed by 18 August in Dane County (Lindemer and Schwarz). The last reports were 24 October in Adams County (Schaufenbuel) and 1 November at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Tessen). The high count was a grouping of 50–75 birds on 21–22 September at the Rainbow Flowage, Oneida County (numerous birders) followed by 54 on 19 September in Portage County (Schaufenbuel).

Semipalmated Plover—Fall arrivals began in July of the summer season. This plover remained at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County into November, with the last report being 7 November (Mooney). Other than Horicon, there were few sightings beyond the first days of October. These few were until 13 October at the Manitowoc Impoundment in Manitowoc County (Sontag) and then 30 October in Columbia County (Fotland). There are only two departure records later than that of 7 November by Mooney. Those two are 8 November 1947 in Milwaukee County (Gordon Orians) and 14 November 1972 in La Crosse County (Jerome Rosso). The high count was 25 on 24 October at Horicon Marsh, Fond du Lac County (Lindo) followed by 23 on 7 September at Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (Romano).

Piping Plover—There was one bird reported on 17 August in Kewaunee County (Sinkula). This is the first fall find since 2008.

Killdeer—The last sightings were 18 November in Manitowoc County (Sontag), 23 November in Rock County (Cullum), and 25 November in Kenosha County (John and Sam Krerowicz). A small number of Killdeer were found into the winter season. The high counts were 400 on 4 August in Manitowoc County (Tessen), 385 on 29 August at the Wind Lake

Sod Farms in Racine County (Howe), and 275 in Outagamie County on 16 August (Tessen).

Black-necked Stilt—The summer reports of Black-necked Stilts at Horicon Marsh continued into the fall season, with this bird reported from both the Dodge and Fond du Lac County sides of Horicon Marsh. The last Dodge County report was on 7 September (Goff, Hahn, and Romano), while the last Fond du Lac County report was on 9 September (Dixon and Wenzel). The only state departure date later than the above two September dates is 10–11 October 1991 in Milwaukee County (Brian Boldt). The high count was 7 on 7 September from the Dodge County side (Hahn and Romano). Most other reports were of 4 birds.

American Avocet—There were no summer reports of fall arrivals. The first discovery was on 15 August at Vernon Marsh in Waukesha County (Dembroski) followed by 17 August in Outagamie County (Pendergast and Schaufenbuel). The only counties reporting the Avocet were Dunn, Manitowoc, Outagamie, Portage, and Waukesha with nearly all finds confined to the period 15–25 August. The exceptions were 3–4 September in Dunn County (Polk) and 1 October of a bird at the Lake Du Bay Dam, Portage County (Brocken, Janz, and Skutek). All sightings were of one bird except for 2 on the 17 August find in Outagamie County.

Spotted Sandpiper—The last dates were 12 October in Manitowoc County (Sontag), 16 October in Dodge County (Mooney), and the period 21–29 October at Harrington Beach, Ozaukee County (with the last views by Schaefer and Szymczak). The high count was 16 on 26 August in Milwaukee County (Wiskowski) followed by 11 on 6 September in Manitowoc County (Domagalski).

Solitary Sandpiper—There were numerous reports of fall arrivals during the summer season. The last dates were 15–22 October in Juneau County (Puchalski) and 24 October in La Crosse County (Stratton). The high counts were 20 on 14 August at the Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Mertins), 20 on 24 August in Clark County (Belter), and 15 on 21 August in Marathon County (Walker).

Greater Yellowlegs—After a number of reports during the first week of November, the only find beyond 8 November was 11 November at Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (Mooney). There were a number of high counts coming from the Zeloski Marsh of Jefferson County with the highest being 50 on 4 September



Figure 17. Snowy Owl found at Sheboygan by Jim Edlhuber on 21 November 2011 seems a bit sleepy after his travels.

(Heikkinen). There were also 50 reported on 16 August from Chippewa County (Lind).

Willet—Three birds were seen from the Manitowoc Impoundment in Manitowoc County on 8 August (Sontag). This was followed by the sighting of one bird at Seagull Bar in Marinette County on 13 October (J. Campbell). This 13 October report is one of the latest in state history, with only three sightings at a later date.

Lesser Yellowlegs—This yellowlegs was found at the Horicon Marsh in Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties until 7 November (Frank and Tessen). The nearest departure date to this

was 23 October in Marathon County (Belter). The Zeloski Marsh in Jefferson County was a great place to find large numbers of this shorebird. There were reports of 100 to 250 in the period 21 August through 5 September, with the high of 250 being on 21 August (Prestby and Yoerger). The high for the state was 300 on 4 August in Outagamie County (Tessen).

Upland Sandpiper—There were 3 fall reports. Those three were 19 August in Portage County (Schaufenbuel), 4 September in Sauk County (McDonald), and 7 September in Dodge County (Goff). All reports were of single birds.



Figure 18. Front view of the female Broad-billed Hummingbird visiting the feeder of Tina Kepple and Ray Bender in Mequon, Ozaukee County, taken on 13 November 2011 by Dave Freriks.



Figure 19. Back view of the female Broad-billed Hummingbird taken as it visited the feeder in Mequon by Dave Freriks on 13 November 2011.

Whimbrel—There were 3 fall reports. Those three were 25 August in Milwaukee County (Hahn), 25 August in Manitowoc County (Sontag), and 26 August in Racine County (Fare). The Milwaukee report was of 2 birds; the others were of one.

Hudsonian Godwit—There were eight reports. Those eight were 31 August in Marathon County (Belter and Pendergast), 2 September in Jefferson County (Thiessen), 6 September in Dodge County (Tessen), 9 September in Clark County (Risch), 16 September in Marathon County (Pendergast), 18 September in Marathon County (Belter), 2 October in Oneida County (Peczynski), and 5–6 November in Dodge County (Olson and Tessen). The only state record with a later date than 5–6 November is 13 November 1998 in Trempealeau County (Lisa McCurdy). The high count was 6 on 16 September in Marathon County (Pendergast) followed by 4 on 6 September in Dodge County (Tessen).

Marbled Godwit—There were two fall reports. Those two were 9–15 August at the Impoundment in Manitowoc County (Sontag) and 6–9 September at Horicon Marsh in Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties (Dixon, Romano, Tessen, and Wenzel). All reports were of one bird except for 2 on 9 September in Fond du Lac County (Dixon and Wenzel).

Ruddy Turnstone—Reported from the counties of Dane, Douglas, Jefferson, Kenosha, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, and Racine. The first find was on 15 August at the Impoundment in Manitowoc County (Sontag) followed by 27 August at Wind Point in Racine County (Dixon). The last dates were 25 September at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (Stutz) and 5 October at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (Trick). The high count was 9 on 3 September in Milwaukee County (W. Mueller).

Red Knot—Found in the counties of Bayfield, Dane, Jefferson, Manitowoc (with three different locations), Milwaukee, and Racine. First noticed on 16 August in Dane County (Prestby) followed by 23 August in Manitowoc County (Sontag). The last sighting was on 4 September at the Zeloski Marsh in Jefferson County (Heikkinen, Stutz, and Yoerger). There were two birds noted on the 2 September find in the Apostle Islands of Bayfield County (Duchek). All other reports were of single birds.

Sanderling—The first fall migrant was found on 31 July of the summer season in

Adams County (Helland). The next find was not until 14 August in Milwaukee County (Mooney). The last dates were 14 November in Milwaukee County (Tessen) and 15 November in Sheboygan County (Tessen). In the period 28 September through 6 November, Sontag was reporting on a daily basis totals ranging from 30 to 104 at the Impoundment in Manitowoc County, with the high of 104 coming on 4 November. The nearest totals to this were 100 on 22 October in Ozaukee County (Tessen) followed by 90 on 8 September in Milwaukee County (Hahn).

Semipalmated Sandpiper—The bulk of fall migrants arrived during the summer season. The only location where this sandpiper was found into the month of October was at the Horicon Marsh, with the last sighting on 1 November in Dodge County (Tessen). Nearest to this were birds found in the period 21–29 September at the Rainbow Flowage in Oneida County (last seen by David) and the period 24–29 September at the Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski). The high count was 250 on 28 August at Crex Meadows, Burnett County (Paulios and Swelstad). Nearest to this were 80 on 28 August in Jefferson County (Bridge, Hahn, and Prestby) and 79 on 30 August in Waukesha County (Howe). The 250 at Crex Meadows was one of the highest fall counts for this species. The only counts with a greater total were 391 on 15 August 2006 at the Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (Sean Fitzgerald) and 500 on 20 August 1972 at the Grand River Marsh in Green Lake County (Daryl Tessen).

Western Sandpiper*—There were no accepted Western Sandpipers reported.

Least Sandpiper—The bulk of fall migrants arrived during the summer season. The last dates were 26 October at the Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski), 30 October in Columbia County (Fotland), and 29 October to 3 November at the Horicon Marsh in Fond du Lac County (Tessen). The high count was 250 on 28 August at Crex Meadows in Burnett County (Paulios and Swelstad) followed by 125 on 7 August at the Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Schroeder).

White-rumped Sandpiper—Reported from 14 Counties. The first find was on 6 August in Barron County (Carlsen) followed by 7 August from the Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Gil and Will Lewis). The White-rumped remained at Horicon Marsh, Dodge County until 1 November (Tessen). The nearest

departure date to Horicon was 22 September at the Rainbow Flowage in Oneida County (multiple birders). The high count was 10 on 13 October in Dodge County (Tessen) followed by 6 on 14 and 16 September at the Zeloski Marsh, Jefferson County (Thiessen).

Baird's Sandpiper—The first fall Baird's arrived in July of the summer season. The last departure dates were 5 October at the Rainbow Flowage in Oneida County (Jim Baughman), 9–13 October at the Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Tessen), and 22 October at the Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (A. and J. Holschbach). The high counts were 40 on 4 September in Vernon County (Puchalski), 30 on 24 August in Clark County (Belter), and 30 on 24 August in Outagamie County (Tessen).

Pectoral Sandpiper—Fall migrants arrived in July of the summer season. The last departure dates were 5 November in the counties of Dane (Edmonson) and Wood (Gold) and then 6 November at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Hiekkinen and Thiessen). The high count was 400 on 4 August in Manitowoc County (Tessen), followed by 350 on 21 August at the Zeloski Marsh in Jefferson County (Prestby and Yoerger), and 300 on 4 August in Outagamie County (Tessen).

Purple Sandpiper—Although there followed a wonderful winter for finding Purple Sandpipers, none of them were found early enough to be reported for the fall season.

Dunlin—First found on 1–2 August at Nine Springs in Dane County (Lindemer, Schneider, and Schwartz). The last reports were 19 November at Wind Point in Racine County (Dixon, Howe, Pugh, and Wenzel) and 25 November at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Hahn). The high count was 510 on 1 November at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Tessen).

Stilt Sandpiper—The first fall arrivals came during the summer season. The last departure date was 3 November at the Horicon Marsh in Fond du Lac County (Tessen). Found regularly until 1 November at the Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Tessen). The 3 November find by Tessen is one of the latest departure dates. There are only three sightings that are later. Horicon Marsh had a number of reports with 100 or more individuals with the high being 230 on 6 September (Tessen). In the history of the fall counts, the only count greater than 230 was 250 (set on 9 September 2008 at the Horicon Marsh, Dodge County by Daryl Tessen). The nearest high count to these two

was 125 (set on 16 August 2001 in Brown County by Daryl Tessen).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper—The first fall report was on 31 July of the summer season at the Wind Lake Sod Farms, Racine County (Hahn). This sandpiper was then reported from an additional 15 counties (Fig. 9). The last September find was on the 30th at Wind Lake, Racine County (Fitzgerald). Well beyond September were documented sightings at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County on 30 October (T. Wood) and 7 November (Mooney). Both these reports were record late by a wide margin. The record had been 4 October 1996 in Dodge County (Tessen). The high counts were 13–15 on 2–4 September at the Wind Lake Sod Farms, Racine County (Dixon) followed by 12 on 2 September at the Zeloski Marsh, Jefferson County (Thiessen).

Short-billed Dowitcher—Reported from 14 counties with the first fall arrivals appearing in July of the summer season. The last finds were on 1–2 October at the Horicon Marsh, Fond du Lac County (Burckhard and Schmidt). The high counts were 12 on 5 September at the Zeloski Marsh in Jefferson County (Bucci, Mertins, and Schiffman) and 10 on 26 August at the Impoundment in Manitowoc County (Paulios).

Long-billed Dowitcher—Reported from 9 counties. The last reports were on 24 October at the Sixth Avenue Marsh in Adams County (Pendergast) and until 1–6 November at the Horicon Marsh in Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties (Tessen). There were a number of counts of 100 or more from the Horicon Marsh with the highest being 230 on 18 October in Dodge County (Tessen).

Wilson's Snipe—This nesting species was found near the start of the season in the counties of Dodge, Marathon, Outagamie, Walworth, Waukesha, and Winnebago. Beyond 16 November, the only report was on 26 November, Rock County (Evanson). Despite this lack of late fall finds, a number of snipe were found as usual into the winter season. The high count was 75 on 16 August in Outagamie County (Tessen) followed by 35 on 20 August in Outagamie County (S. Cutright and Setzer).

American Woodcock—The last dates were 1 November at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Center in Sheboygan County, 2 November in Douglas County (Sirvio), 3 November in Outagamie County (Tessen), and 6 November at Eagle Valley in Grant County (Fischer). The



Figure 20. Rufous Hummingbird photographed on Washington Island (Door County) by Alex Waltrip on 6 August 2011. Documentation came from Ginny Foster.

only report of better than 3 birds was of 15 on 22 October in Florence County (Rickaby).

Wilson's Phalarope—There were six fall reports of this nesting species within normal dates. Those six were 22 August in Outagamie County (Tessen), 26 August in Door County (C. & R. Lukes), 29 August at Nine Springs in Dane County (Batterman), 30 August in Mani-

towoc County (Tessen), 6–7 September at Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Goff, Hahn, Romano, and Tessen), and 10 September at Zeloski Marsh in Jefferson County (Stutz). Well beyond these was documentation for 7 November at the Trempealeau NWR (V. Hirschboeck). The only state departure date later than 7 November was 11 November 1939 in Dodge County (Charles Black). The high count was 4 at Nine Springs on 29 August.



Figure 21. An immature *Selasphorus* hummingbird was photographed by Doug Kieser at the home of his parent's in Neillsville (Clark County) on 16 October 2011.



Figure 22. This Say's Phoebe was recorded at Kohler-Andrea State Park (Sheboygan County) by Carl Schroeder on 29 October 2011.



Figure 23. Vermilion Flycatcher on 18 November 2011 at Muskrat Lake, Rock County, was photographed by Dave Freriks.

Red-necked Phalarope—The first fall migrant was found on 25 July of the summer season in Waukesha County (Veltman). This phalarope was found during the fall season in the counties of Barron, Clark, Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Dunn, Fond du Lac, Jefferson, Manitowoc, and Marathon. The last dates were 10 September at the Zeloski Marsh in Jefferson County (Thiessen) and 16 September at the Horicon Marsh in Dodge County (Oksiuta and T. Wood). The high count was 6 on 5 September at the Zeloski March, Jefferson County (numerous birders).

Red Phalarope*—There were three reports, each of a single bird. Those three reports were 31 October through 7 November at Wind Point (Fig. 10) in Racine County (first noticed by Fare and Howe), 14–15 November at North Point (Figures 11 and 12) in Sheboygan County (Tessen, Schroeder, T. Wood and Yoerger), and 25–26 November at North Beach (Fig. 13) in Racine County (Dixon, Howe, and Wenzel).

Black-legged Kittiwake—A large number of birders had gathered at Muskrat Lake, Rock County, on 6 November waiting to have views of a Vermillion Flycatcher when a Black-legged Kittiwake (Fig. 14) landed on the lake and put on a show. Those documenting this find were Dixon, Ellis, Howe, Mooney, Tessen, and Wenzel. A Black-legged was also documented by Schneider along Lake Michigan in Milwaukee County on 22 November.

Sabine's Gull—There were three reports, those three being 19 September at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (Svingen), 25 September at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (numerous birders from the WSO field trip), and 25 September at Ashland, Ashland County (Anich). The Ashland report was of 4 birds.

Bonaparte's Gull—The last reports were 27 November in Waukesha County (Schaefer and Szymczak) and 30 November in Columbia County (Paulios). The high count was 120 on 2 November in Portage County (Janz) followed by 92 on 28 September in Douglas County (Svingen).

Laughing Gull—A juvenile bird was seen 10–12 August at the Impoundment in Manitowoc County (Sontag). This same bird was seen again by Sontag on 27 August.

Franklin's Gull—This gull was reported from the counties of Ashland, Douglas, Grant, Iowa, Rock, Sauk, Trempealeau, and Waukesha. The first report was 18 September from

Iowa/Sauk Counties (Prestby and Schilke). The last finds were 12 October in Waukesha County (Gustafson) and 27 October in Grant County (McKay). Much later than these was 23 November at Muskrat Lake, Rock County (Cullum). The high count was 6 on 23 November at Muskrat Lake, Rock County.

Ring-billed Gull—In the period 21 September through 11 October there were numerous reports of 4,000 to 6,000 Ring-billed at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (many observers). Other high counts were 5,500 on 6 August in Manitowoc County (Sontag) and 5,000 on 10 October in Green Lake County (Schultz).

Herring Gull—In the period 9 September through 18 November there were nearly daily reports of 1,000 to 5,000 Herring Gulls from Wisconsin Point in Douglas County, with most of the reports coming from Svingen. The high of 5,000 was found on 15 October. Other finds of 1,000+ were 1,100 on 5 August in Manitowoc County (Sontag), 1,200 on 4 November in Racine County (Gustafson), 2,000 on 24 October in Ozaukee County (W. Mueller), and 4,000 on 1 November in Ozaukee County (Heikkinen and Thiessen).

Thayer's Gull—Reported from the counties of Dane, Douglas, Jefferson, Kewaunee, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Racine, with most of the reports coming from Douglas County. There were also reports of Thayer's/Iceland from the counties of Ashland, Bayfield, and Douglas. The first find was on 20–23 September at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (Tessen) with the next find not coming until 5 October at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (Svingen). The 20 September find by Tessen is one of the earliest arrival dates with only three sightings with earlier dates. Reports of this gull continued through the winter season. The high count was 11 on 5 November at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (Svingen).

Iceland Gull—The only reports were of single birds on 15 October and 18 November at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (Svingen).

Lesser Black-backed Gull—This gull was found in the counties of Douglas, Jefferson, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, and Waukesha. It was reported through much of the summer along the City of Sheboygan lakefront and began the fall season by being seen at North Point, Sheboygan County until 17 August (Grgic, Pendergast, and Schaufenbuel). The next sighting was not until 15–16 September at Wisconsin Point, Douglas

County (Svingen). This gull was found at or near the end of the season in the counties of Jefferson, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Waukesha with sightings extending into the winter season. All finds were of one or two individuals.

Glaucous Gull—The Glaucous was first seen on 7 October at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (R. Johnson and Svingen). The next sighting was not until 27 October in Vernon County (Paulios) followed by 28 October in Jefferson County (Stutz). The high count was 5 on 26 November in Kewaunee County (Tessen) followed by 4 on 28 November at Point Beach SP in Manitowoc County (Domagalski).

Great Black-backed Gull—Reported from the counties of Douglas, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, and Sheboygan. All of these are counties that border a Great Lake. The Great Black-backed was reported through most of the summer off North Point, Sheboygan County. It continued to be found there through the entire fall season and into the winter. It was found as early as 9 August off Wind Point, Racine County (Fare). It remained into the winter season at a number of locations. The high count was 6 on 26 November in Kewaunee County (Tessen) followed by 4 on 24 November in Manitowoc County (Schilke).

Caspian Tern—The last sightings were 28 September in Door County (C. & R. Lukes) and 29 September in the counties of Racine (Fare) and Winnebago (Ziebell). The high counts were 51 on 16 August at Seagull Bar in Marinette County (J. Campbell) and 48 on 9 August in Kewaunee County (K. Kavanagh).

Black Tern—Reported from 13 counties with most reports coming from the Horicon Marsh of Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties. This tern was reported regularly at Horicon Marsh through 7 September. The only report in the state beyond that date was of one bird on 3 October at Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (Frank). An unusual find was a single bird on 4 September in Vilas County (M. Anderson). The high counts were 40 on 6 August in Columbia County (W. Mueller) followed by 35 on 17 August in Dane County (Lindemer).

Common Tern—Reported at the start of the season in Winnebago County (Ziebell). Beyond that the next reports were 9 August in Kewaunee County (K. Kavanagh), 9 August in Oconto County (K. Kavanagh), and 12 August in Manitowoc County (Schroeder). The last

sightings were 9 October in Douglas County (Svingen) and 15 October in Door County (Kloepping). The high count was 164 at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (Svingen) followed by 20 on 21 September in Ashland County (Brady).

Forster's Tern—Reported from 22 counties with the only reports from early in the season coming from the counties of Columbia, Dodge, Manitowoc, and Winnebago. The only sightings beyond 2 October were daily finds through 14 October at the Impoundment in Manitowoc County (Sontag) and then 15 October at Lake Dubai in Portage County (Pendergast). The high count was 20 on 28 August in Dodge County (Mertins) and 20 on 17 August in Sheboygan County (Pendergast).

Parasitic Jaeger—First reported on 23 August in Douglas County (DeBoer) with the next sighting not until 7 September at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (Oksiuta). This jaeger was found on nearly a daily basis in the period 7 September through 8 October from Wisconsin Point. Reports were especially heavy in the period 21–25 September during the WSO Jaeger Fest Trip. Later reports were provided mainly by R. Johnson and Svingen. The only report outside of Douglas County was on 15 October at Lake Dubai, Portage County (Pendergast). The high count was 5 on 21 and 24 September at Wisconsin Point in Douglas County (Tessen).

Rock Pigeon—The high counts were 200 on 1 November in Kewaunee County (the Kavanaghs) followed by 170 on 1 October in Florence County (the Kavanaghs).

Eurasian Collared-Dove—Reported from the counties of Crawford, Grant (3 locations), Iowa, Manitowoc, Portage, Sauk, and Vernon. The high count was 6 on 19 November in Crawford County (Heikkinen). As might be noted, most reports came from counties in the southwest of the state.

Mourning Dove—The high counts were 210 on 26 November in Sauk County (Yoerger), 105 on 4 September in Waukesha County (Gustafson), and 100 on 20 November in Dane County (McDowell).

Inca Dove*—One bird was found on 28 October on the Concordia University Campus in Mequon, Ozaukee County (Arnholz). The last fall report came on 30 November (Frank). There was much documentation (Figs. 15 and 16 and cover) for this bird between those dates. This is the first state record of this species.



Figure 24. Western Kingbird found and photographed by John Longhenry on 25 August 2011 at Horicon Marsh (Dodge County).



Figure 25. Note the white outer tail feathers on this back view of the Western Kingbird at Horicon Marsh on 25 August 2011, by John Longhenry.



Figure 26. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Kewaunee County was photographed by Dave Freriks on 2 November 2011.



Figure 27. Spotted Towhee at the home of Richard Ouren in Grant County was pictured by Chris West on 13 October 2011.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—This cuckoo was found in 15 counties. The last sightings were 9 October in Dodge County (Cullen), 11 October in Waukesha County (Gustafson), and 15 October in Manitowoc County (Domagalski). All finds were of one or two birds.

Black-billed Cuckoo—This cuckoo was found in 20 counties. The last sightings were 21 September in Jefferson County (Etter-Hale), 22 September in Dane County (Kreitingner), and 1 October in Rock County (Cullum). All finds were of one or two birds.

Eastern Screech-Owl—This owl was reported from 17 counties, the most northern being Dunn (Pamela Campbell). The high count was 3 on 13 November in Iowa County (Howe).

Great Horned Owl—This owl was reported from 39 counties with the high count being 4 on 17 September in the counties of Green Lake (Schultz) and Oneida (Gustafson).

Snowy Owl—After having no reports for the Snowy in the fall of 2010, there were reports from 42 counties (Fig. 17) this fall. These reports were but a prelude to a wonderful Snowy Owl winter to follow. The first dates were 5 November in Door County (C. & R. Lukes) and 10 November in Barron and Outagamie Counties followed by reports on 14 November from the counties of Oconto, St. Croix, and Waukesha. The high count was 5 on 22 November in Ashland County.

Barred Owl—This owl was reported from 40 counties with the high count of three from a number of locations.

Long-eared Owl—The only reports were from Forest Beach in Ozaukee County on 20 November (N. Cutright) and the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County on 17 and 24 October.

Short-eared Owl—Reported from the counties of Bayfield, Dodge, Manitowoc, Portage, Rock, Sheboygan, and Walworth. The first finds were 10 October at Lulu Lake, Walworth County (Howe) followed by 17 October at the Impoundment in Manitowoc County (Sontag). Birds continued to be found into the winter season. The high count was 10 at the Buena Vista Grasslands, Portage County (Janz).

Northern Saw-whet Owl—Reported from the counties of Douglas, Eau Claire, Ozaukee, Sheboygan, and Waukesha. The first find

was on 3 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County with reports from other areas extending into the winter season. The high count was 18 on 22 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station, Sheboygan County.

Common Nighthawk—The last dates were 14 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County, 14 October in Portage County (Pendergast), and 27 October in Vernon County (Paulios). The high count was 1,035 on 2 September at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County followed by 901 on 3 September at Fischer Creek, Manitowoc County (Domagalski).

Eastern Whip-poor-will—This bird was reported from 10 counties. The last finds were 17 September in Green Lake County (Schultz) and 28 September in Florence County (the Kavanaghs). The high count was 4 on 10 September in Marinette County (Swelstad) and 27 September in Florence County (K. Kavanagh).

Chimney Swift—The last dates were 12 October in Rock County (Cullum) and 13 October in Rock County at a different location (Boone). The high count was 450 on 23 August at Beloit, Rock County (Boone) followed by 200 on 4 September at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County and 180 on 16 September in Milwaukee County (W. Mueller).

Broad-billed Hummingbird*—There was a report of one female (Figures 18 and 19) coming to the feeder of Tina Kepple and Ray Bender in Mequon, Ozaukee County. The bird was seen in the period of 14–26 November. Numerous birders were able to view and document this bird, which was but the second ever found in Wisconsin. The first record dates back to 20–31 October 2000 in Dodge County (Dave Freriks).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird—There were a number of reports into the first week of October. The last of these was on 7 October in Winnebago County (Ziebell). Beyond this there was a report for the period 21–30 October from the feeder of Joel and Patti Trick in Manitowoc County. The high count was 20 on 7 September in Dane County (Henrickson).

Rufous Hummingbird*—A Rufous (Fig. 20) was documented for 6 August on Washington Island in Door County (G. Foster). An immature *Selasphorus* species came to the feeder of Douglas Kieser's parents on 16 October in Clark County (Fig. 21).

Belted Kingfisher—The high count was 8 on 22 August in Dane County (Jakoubek). As usual, numbers of this species remained into the winter season.

Red-headed Woodpecker—This woodpecker was reported from 30 counties. Although most reports were from the southern half of the state, such northern counties as Bayfield, Clark, Florence, Marinette, Sawyer, and Washburn also held this species. The high counts were 24 on 20 September at Eagle Valley in Grant County (Stark), 11 on 6 September at Eagle Valley in Grant County (Stark), and 11 on 25 September at the Necedah NWR in Juneau County (numerous birders). Numbers of this woodpecker remained into the winter season.

Red-bellied Woodpecker—There were a small number of reports from the following far northern counties: Clark (2 reports), Douglas (1 report), Florence (1 report), Oneida, Rusk (1 report), and Vilas. The high count was 26 on 6 October at Eagle Valley, Grant County (McKay) followed by 25 on 12 October in Grant County (McKay and Mandernack).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—There were only five November reports with the last being 26 November in Sauk County (Yoerger) and 21–30 November in Rock County (Griffis). Despite this scarcity of late season finds this sapsucker was found into the winter season in good numbers. The high count was of 12 on 26 September at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (West).

Downy Woodpecker—The high count was 13 on 1 November at Wind Point, Racine County (Pugh).

Hairy Woodpecker—The high count was 10 on 15 August in Brown County (Metzler).

Black-backed Woodpecker—There were two reports, they being 4 August of two birds in Ashland County (Anich and Prestby) and 10 October of one bird in Forest County (Duchek).

Northern Flicker—The high count was 28 on 8 August in Portage County (Schaufenbuel) followed by 22 on 19 September in Portage County (Schaufenbuel).

Pileated Woodpecker—The high count was 8 on 12 October at Eagle Valley, Grant County (McKay and Mandernack). The Pileated was reported in the southeast portion of the state in the counties of Dodge, Green, Rock,

and Walworth. It is a nesting species in Washington and Waukesha Counties.

Olive-sided Flycatcher—The only early season report from a nesting county was 1 August in Vilas County (Anich). There were numerous early season reports from counties south of the nesting range. The first finds were on 6 August in the counties of Green (A. Anderson) and Walworth (Howe). The last date was 22 September in Richland County (Duerksen). The high count was 3 on 27 August at Pheasant Branch, Dane County (McDowell).

Eastern Wood-Pewee—Found until 2 October at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (McDowell) and Lulu Lake in Walworth County (Howe). The only find beyond this was 23 October at Forest Beach, Ozaukee County (Strelka). The high count was 25 at Avon Bottoms in Rock County (Paulios and Yoerger) followed by 24 on 8 September at Eagle Valley in Grant County (McKay).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher—There were early season reports from the nesting counties of Ashland (Anich) and Bayfield (Brady). The first sightings south of the nesting counties were 12 August in Milwaukee County (Bontly and Zehner), 14 August in Dane County (McDowell), and 14 August in Dodge County (Mertins). The last reports were 19 September in Iowa County (Pugh) and 20 September at Eagle Valley, Grant County (Stark). Nearly all reports were of one or two birds. The exception was 6 birds on 14 August at Pheasant Branch, Dane County (McDowell).

Acadian Flycatcher—This flycatcher was found in 7 counties with finds near the start of the season in the counties of Jefferson, Richland, Walworth, and Waukesha. The last reports were on 12 and 20 September from the Kettle Moraine of Waukesha County (Szymczak). The high count was 4 on 3 August in Jefferson County (Szymczak).

Alder Flycatcher—Early season finds in the southern part of the state were 1 August in Waukesha County (Gustafson), 2 August in Walworth County (Howe), and 3 August in Columbia County (Dischler). The last dates were 4–10 September in Florence County (the Kavanaghs), 7 September in Outagamie County (Tessen), and 24 September in Wood County (W. Mueller). The high count was 6 on 11 August in Ashland County (Rogers).

Willow Flycatcher—The most northern finds were 1–2 August in Brown County (the Ka-



Figure 28. Racine County Grasshopper Sparrow recorded on 12 November 2011 by Kristin Wegner.



Figure 30. Western Tanager from Merrill in Lincoln County was first reported by Dan Belter on 2 November 2011.

Figure 29. This Nelson's Sparrow was at Lake Barney in Dane County on 5 October when pictured by Tom Prestby.

vanaghs), 17 August in Kewaunee County (Pendergast and Schaufenbuel), and 6 August in Marathon County (Belter). All three of these counties have been known to hold nesting records. The last dates were 3 September in Iowa County (Pugh), 5 September in Portage County (Pendergast), and 5 September in Waukesha County (Petherick). The high count was 5 on 6 August at Pheasant Branch, Dane County (McDowell).

Least Flycatcher—The last dates were 5 October in Waukesha County (Gustafson), 4–8 October in Vernon County (Forchione), and 16 October in Ozaukee County (Cimino). The high count was 6 on 20 August in Bayfield County (Brady) and 6 on 28 August in Dodge County (Mertins).

Eastern Phoebe—The last dates were 5 November in Door County (C. & R. Lukes), 11 November in Vernon County (Stark), and 13 November in Dane County (Witynski). The high count was 21 on 19 September in Portage County (Schaufenbuel) followed by 12 on 5 September in Portage County (Pendergast).

Say's Phoebe*—One bird was documented by Carl Schroeder at Kohler-Andrae SP, Sheboygan County on 29 October (Fig. 22). This becomes the fourth state record. It also becomes the record late date, the old record having been 10–11 September 2006 in Ozaukee County (Jean Strelka).

Vermilion Flycatcher*—An adult male was found by Quentin Yoerger on 5 November at Muskrat Lake, Rock County. The word got out quickly, with a number of birders finding the flycatcher again later that day. A great many birders then visited this location to see this colorful Wisconsin life bird (Fig. 23). This bird continued to remain in place, with the last find being on 1 December of the winter season. This becomes the sixth state record. The only other November record was from 10 November to 2 December 2001 in Jefferson County (Brenda Rozella).

Great Crested Flycatcher—The last dates were 16 September in Marinette County (Gail and Lee Pullen), 18–21 September at Pheasant Branch, Dane County (McDowell), and 21 September at the Arena Boat Landing, Iowa County (A. Holschbach). The high count was 6 on 14 August in La Crosse County (Malcom) followed by 4 on 4 August in Florence County (K. Kavanagh).

Western Kingbird—A single bird was photographed and documented by John Longhenry on 25 August at the Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (Figs. 24 and 25).

Eastern Kingbird—The last sightings were 12 September in Walworth County (Howe), 19 September in Portage County (Pendergast), and 22 September in Sheboygan County (Pecquex). The high count was 12 on 22 August in Dane County (Jakoubek) and 15 August in Portage County (Pendergast).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher*—A single bird was first found and photographed by N. Seeger on 30 October near the intersection of County Roads E and O in Casco Township, Kewaunee County. Numerous other birders were then able to view this bird (Fig. 26) over the next days, with the last report being on 5 November. The 5 November date is record late. The late date had been 3 November 2003 in Oconto County (the Smiths).

Northern Shrike—The first sighting was on 15 October in Bayfield County (Anich and Brady) followed by 19 October in Barron County (Carlsen). The high count was 4 on 28 October in Ashland County (Brady).

White-eyed Vireo—There were two reports within normal time ranges. The first was 1–5 September in Milwaukee County (W. Mueller), the other 6 October at the Retzer Nature Center in Waukesha County (Mertins). Well beyond these was documentation for 28 October at Sheridan Park in Milwaukee County (Lubahn). The only other fall records beyond this date are 9 November 2010 from the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County and 21 November through 8 December 1997 in Dane County (Philip Ashman). There are also two other winter records.

Yellow-throated Vireo—The last sightings within normal dates were 8 October in Dane County (Heikkinen) and 9 October in Walworth County (Howe). Beyond these was documentation for 19 October in Appleton, Outagamie County (Rice). The only departure record at a later date was 2–3 November 1991 in Milwaukee County (Domagalski). The high count was 7 on 8 September in Grant County (McKay).

Blue-headed Vireo—The only reports from nesting counties early in the season were from Bayfield and Florence Counties. There was also an 8 August find in the Kettle Moraine of Waukesha County (Szymczak), which was of a

summer resident bird. The last finds were 15 October in Dodge County (Petherick), 19 October in Milwaukee County (Huf), and 21 October in Milwaukee County (W. Mueller). The high count was 8 on 5 September in Polk County (Maercklein). Nearest to this were 3 from several locations.

Warbling Vireo—The last date was 28 September in Dane County (Mettel). The high count was 6 from a number of locations in Dane County.

Philadelphia Vireo—The first fall finds were 2 August in Sawyer County (Gordon) followed by 7 August in Portage County (Schaufenbuel). Nearest to these was 18 August in Crawford County (Sandstrom). The last dates were 10 October in Dane County (Herb) and 11 October in Crawford County (Sandstrom). The high count was 5 on 13 September in Crawford County (Sandstrom).

Red-eyed Vireo—The last dates were 12 October in Milwaukee County (Zehner), 16 October in Dodge County (R. Rohde), and 18 October in Kewaunee County (Sinkula). The high count was 35 on 5 September in Brown County (Tessen) followed by 20 on 14 August in Florence County (the Kavanaghs).

Gray Jay—Reported from the northern counties of Ashland, Florence, Forest, Oneida, and Vilas with the great majority of reports coming from Forest County. The high count was 4 on 4 September in Forest County (Duchek) and on 26 October in Vilas County (Spahn).

Blue Jay—The high counts were 987 on 11 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (Stark), 538 on 6 October at Eagle Valley, Grant County (McKay), 510 on 2 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County, and 473 on 4 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (Stark).

American Crow—The high counts were 514 on 19 August in Bayfield County (Oksiuta) followed by 450 on 8 October in Portage County (Pendergast and Stroik).

Common Raven—The Raven was found in 36 counties. There were reports as far south as the central sand counties of Adams, Jackson, Portage, Waushara, and Wood. Unusual finds were in the counties of Brown (Swelstad), Green Lake (Schultz), and Manitowoc (Tessen). The high count was 12 on 20 November in Marinette County (A. Holschbach) and 12 on 20 October in Vilas County (Prestby).

Horned Lark—This lark was present throughout the period. The high count was 65 on 4 October in Florence County (K. Kavanagh) followed by 62 on 10 November in Grant County (McKay).

Purple Martin—The last dates were 10 September in Dodge County (Anderson), 22 September in Manitowoc County (Domagalski), and 26 September in Sauk County (A. Holschbach). Beyond these was a sighting on 5 October in Rock County (Cullum). The high count was 60 on 2 August at Lake Lulu, Walworth County (Howe) followed by 21 on 9 August in Marinette County (J. Campbell).

Tree Swallow—The last dates were 25–27 October in Grant County (McKay and Stark). Well beyond these was a significant find on 26 November at Two Rivers, Manitowoc County (Schilke). The high counts were 1,000 on 6 August in Dodge County (W. Mueller), 700 on 21 September in Manitowoc County (Domagalski), and 500 on 16 September in Dodge County (Oksiuta).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow—The last dates were 21 September in Outagamie County (Rice), 24 September in Trempealeau County (Puchalski), and 29 September in Grant County (McKay and Mandernack). The high count was 60 on 3 September in Dane County (Evanson).

Bank Swallow—The last dates were 20 September in Grant County (Stark), 27 September in Dane County (McDowell), and 29 September in Grant County (McKay and Mandernack). The high count was 50 on 6 August in Racine County (Gustafson) followed by 40 on 5 August in Outagamie County (Swelstad).

Cliff Swallow—The last dates were 29 September in Grant County (McKay and Mandernack) and 3 October at Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (Frank). The high count was 150–200 on 20 August in Bayfield County (Brady and Oksiuta). Nearest to this were 38 on 8 August in Portage County (Schaufenbuel).

Barn Swallow—The last dates were 10 October in Sauk County (A. Holschbach), 16 October in Ozaukee County (N. Cutright), and 24 October in Dane County (Henrikson). The high count was 300 on 10 September at Zeloski Marsh, Jefferson County (Stutz) followed by 203 on 5 September in Walworth County (Boone and Fitzgerald).

Black-capped Chickadee—The high count was 52 on 25 November in La Crosse County (Puchalski) followed by 50 on 4 August in Waukesha County (Mertins) and 47 on 24 September in Grant County (A. Holschbach).

Boreal Chickadee—Reported from Forest and Vilas Counties with most reports coming from Forest County. The high count was 11 on 18 August in Forest County (Gustafson) followed by 5 on 20 September in Forest County (Dixon, Fare, and Wenzel).

Tufted Titmouse—Reported from 26 counties. Of these, the more unusual counties were Adams, Green Lake, Ozaukee, and Trempealeau. The most unusual find was a single bird that appeared at the feeder of David Bratley in Washburn, Bayfield County on 8 November. The high count was 12 on 30 September in Dane County (Pfeiffer) followed by 7 on 24 November in La Crosse County (Rownd) and 7 on 19 August in Richland County (A. Holschbach).

Red-breasted Nuthatch—Reported from 57 counties with reports from the first half of August as far south as the counties of Dane, Iowa, Milwaukee, and Waukesha. The high count was 25 on 24 September off Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (Bridge).

White-breasted Nuthatch—The high count was 18 on 6 August in Green County (A. Anderson).

Brown Creeper—Reported from 44 counties. The only counties showing this species in August were Ashland, Douglas, Florence, Iowa, Oneida, Ozaukee, and Sawyer. As usual, a number of these creepers were found into the winter season. The high counts were 12 on 7 November in Dane County (La Puma) followed by 10 on 27 October in Dane County (Schwarz).

Carolina Wren—Found in the counties of Dane, Green Lake, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, and Walworth. The only early August report was on 6 August in Dane County (Prestby). All finds were of single birds.

House Wren—The last dates were 21–22 October in Milwaukee County (Bontly), 22 October in Kenosha County (Woodard), 22 October in Racine County (Dixon, Fare, and Howe), and 24 October at the Lion's Den, Ozaukee County (Bontly and Zehner). The high count was 13 on 8 August in Marathon County (Belter) followed by 11 on 6 August in Green County (A. Anderson).

Winter Wren—Reported from 30 counties. Found near the start of the season in the nesting counties of Ashland, Door, Douglas, Florence, Forest, Langlade, Marinette, and Vilas. As expected, a small number of these wrens remained into the winter season. The high count was 5 on 17 September in Marinette County (A. Holschbach) and on 21 October in Milwaukee County (Huf).

Sedge Wren—Reported from 23 counties. The last dates were 16 October in Dodge County (R. Rohde), 16 October at the Schlitz Audubon Center, Milwaukee County (Bontly), and 18 October at Warnimont Park, Milwaukee County (Lubahn). The high count was 5 from a number of locations.

Marsh Wren—Reported from 22 counties. The last dates were 12 November in Winnebago County (Ziebell) and 16 November at Vernon Marsh, Waukesha County (Gustafson). The high count was 16 on 11 October in Portage County (Pendergast) followed by 12 on 21 October in Manitowoc County (Reimer).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—There were no reports from the far northern counties. The most northern finds were in the counties of Marinette and Washburn, both of which are nesting counties. The last September find was on 22 September in Dane County (Kreitingner and McDowell). This was followed by the much later date of 19 October in Rock County (Boone). The high count was 10 on 2 August in Waukesha County (Mertins) followed by 8 on 30 August in Walworth County (Howe).

Golden-crowned Kinglet—There were August reports from the counties of Ashland, Forest, Oneida, and Vilas. The first find south of the nesting grounds was on 24 September in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) followed by 28 September in the counties of Marinette (J. Campbell) and Milwaukee (Vargo). The high count was 25 on the dates of 18 October in Milwaukee County (Lubahn) and 20 October in Dane County (Paulios).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet—This kinglet is an uncommon nesting species in the far northern parts of the state. The only August reports from this northern region were from the counties of Douglas (the LaValleys) and Florence (K. Kavanagh). The first sighting south of the nesting region was on 29 August in Iowa County (Pugh). The next such find was not until 10 September in Racine County (De Boer) followed by 13 September in Dane County (Ellis). The last dates were 7 November in Rock County

(Cullum), 10 November in Grant County (McKay), and 19 November in Fond du Lac County (Schneider). The high count was 60 on 18 October at Warnimont Park, Milwaukee (Lubahn) followed by 20 on 20 October in Dane County (Paulios).

Eastern Bluebird—Numbers of Bluebirds remained into the winter season. The high count was 387 on 27 October in Grant County (Fischer and McKay) followed by 100 on 17 October in Crawford County (Helgren).

Townsend's Solitaire—Besides two birds being found in the usual locations at Devil's Lake SP, Sauk County (the first on 13 November by A. Holschbach), a Solitaire was found on 21 October at Harrington Beach SP, Ozaukee County (Schaefer and Szymczak) and another two were reported on 24 October in Bayfield County (Kozie, Kwiatkowski, and Moore).

Veery—The last dates were 21 September in Racine County (Howe), 25 September in La Crosse County (Wiegel), and 25 September in Walworth County (Howe). The high count was 6 on the dates of 27 August and 4 September at Lulu Lake, Walworth County (Howe).

Gray-cheeked Thrush—The only August sightings were 24 August in Dunn County (Heagle) and 30 August in Manitowoc County (Tessen). The next find was on 3 September in Milwaukee County (Bontly and Zehner). The last dates were 9 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County, 9 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (N. Cutright and W. Mueller), and 11 October in Milwaukee County (Szymczak). The high count was 4 on 12 September in Door County (R. Rohde).

Swainson's Thrush—The only nesting county with an early season report was Sawyer County (Gordon). The first notice of migrants was on 16 August in Waukesha County (Szymczak) followed by 20 August in Racine County (Kennedy). The late dates were 18 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County, 18 October in Manitowoc County (Knickelbine), and 22 October in Dane County (Warneke). The high count was 100 on 4 September at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (N. Cutright) followed by 35 on 8 September in Rock County (Boone).

Hermit Thrush—Unlike the previous fall, when there were only four nesting counties with early season reports, this fall there were the following eleven counties: Ashland, Bayfield,

Clark, Door, Douglas, Florence, Langlade, Marinette, Oneida, Sawyer, and Vilas. The four birds heard on 6 August in Monroe County (Fissel and Otto) were likely migrants. Other early migrant dates were 3 September in Vernon County (Roth-Reynolds) followed by 5 September in Polk County (Maercklein). The last dates were 23 November in Milwaukee County (Bontly and Huf), 27 November in Waukesha County (Szymczak), and 30 November in Waukesha County (Kinery). The high count was 90 on 18 October at Warnimont Park, Milwaukee County (Lubahn) followed by 26 on 17 October in Manitowoc County (Domagalski).

Wood Thrush—There were reports from 19 counties. This is an improvement over the 12 counties in 2010. This thrush was found at or near the start of the season in the counties of Dane, Florence, Green, Green Lake, Iowa, Jefferson, Ozaukee, Richland, and Waukesha. The most northern reports came from the counties of Douglas, Florence, Marinette, and St. Croix. The late dates were 10 October in Waukesha County (Szymczak), 11 October in Ozaukee County (N. Cutright) and, well beyond the rest, a find on 4–5 November in Dane County (Witynski). This November find is but one of five in the state records for the month of November. The high count was 8 on 8 August in Waukesha County (Szymczak), with Szymczak finding 5 on a number of dates in the Kettle Moraine of Waukesha County. The only other report of 5 was on 20 September at Picnic Point, Dane County (Romano).

American Robin—On 9 October, from his yard near Washburn in Bayfield County, Ryan Brady estimated 13,836 American Robins. Other high counts were 3,000 on 2 November in Dane County (Ellis), 3,000 on 6 November in Milwaukee County (Winze), and 2,300 on 15 October in Milwaukee County (Holton).

Varied Thrush—One bird was seen from 7 November and into the winter season in the yard of Judy Haseleu in Washburn County.

Gray Catbird—A number of Catbirds was reported into the winter season. The last fall finds were 1 November in Dane County (Schwarz), 1 November at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County, and 6 November in Portage County (Schaufenbuel). The high count was 22 on 6 August in Green County (A. Anderson) followed by 19 on 24 September in Walworth County (Howe).

Northern Mockingbird—For the second consecutive fall there have been no reports.

Brown Thrasher—The last dates were 1 November in Dane County (Fronsee), 2 November in Dane County (Wagner), 7 November in Dane County (Krietinger), and 15 November in Portage County (Janz). The high count was 3 from a number of locations.

European Starling—The high count was 3,000 on 11 November in Rock County (Rueckheim) followed by 1,600 on 5 November in Waukesha County (Gustafson).

American Pipit—The first fall sighting was on 11 September in Portage County (Schaufenbuel) followed by 12 September in Douglas County (Bruhnke). The last finds were 23 November at Woodland Dunes, Manitowoc County (Knickelbine) and 24 November at Muskrat Lake, Rock County (Akers). The high count was 198 on 11 November at Collins Marsh in Manitowoc County (Domagalski) followed by 75 on 25 September at the Rainbow Flowage in Oneida County (Krakowski).

Bohemian Waxwing—During the Fall of 2010 and the Winter of 2010–2011 there were strong numbers of Bohemian Waxwings. This fall and winter the numbers have been greatly reduced. The only fall report of Bohemians was of 11 birds on 28 October in the City of Ashland, Ashland County (Brady).

Cedar Waxwing—The high count was 5,159 on 27 October at Eagle Valley, Grant County (McKay and Mandernack) followed by 3,860 on 3 September at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County.

Lapland Longspur—The first fall finds were on 15 September in the counties of Bayfield (Brady) and Burnett (Paulios). This was followed by finds on 16 September in the counties of Douglas (Svingen) and Manitowoc (Sontag). The high count was 250 on 15 November in Racine County (DeBoer) followed by 75 on 29 October in Jefferson County (Stutz).

Snow Bunting—The first finds were 21 September in Douglas County (the LaValleys) and 23 September in Douglas County (Tessen). The next sightings were not until 18 October in the counties of Kewaunee (Sinkula) and Ozaukee (Tessen). On 21 October Snow Buntings were found in Ashland, Douglas, Manitowoc, and Oneida Counties. The 21 September find in Douglas County by the LaValleys is one of the earliest arrival dates on record, with only 3 sightings at an earlier date. The high count was 500 on 23 November in Kewaunee County (Trick) followed by 300 on 31 October in Bay-

field County (Oksiuta) and 140 on 10 November in Vilas County (Jim Baughman).

Ovenbird—The last date was 1 October in the counties of Dane (McDowell), Ozaukee (Veltman), Sheboygan (the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station), and Waukesha (Szymczak). The high count was 5 on 8 August in Waukesha County (Szymczak).

Louisiana Waterthrush—There were two reports. Those two were 18 August in Vernon County (Roth-Reynolds) and 27 August in Polk County (Maercklein).

Northern Waterthrush—The only early season reports for this nesting species were from the counties of Door (R. and C. Lukes), Florence (K. Kavanagh), and Outagamie (Tessen). The last dates were 7 October in Manitowoc County (Domagalski), 10 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County, and 4–13 October at the Schlitz Audubon Center in Milwaukee County (Bontly, Huf, and Zehner). The high count was 4 on 20 August in Ozaukee County (Szymczak).

Blue-winged Warbler—Found as far north as the counties of Florence (K. Kavanagh) and Marinette (Andy Holschbach and the Scheimans). The last dates were 22 September in Dane County (Paulios) and 28 September in Milwaukee County (Huf). All reports were of one or two birds.

Brewster's Warbler (hybrid)—The one report was of a single bird on 27 August in Brown County (Rickaby).

Golden-winged Warbler—The last dates were 21 September in Milwaukee County (Huf), 21 September in Racine County (Kennedy), and 17–23 September at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (McDowell). The high count was 4 on the dates of 6 September in Eau Claire County (Lind) and 13 September in Dane County (McDowell).

Black-and-white Warbler—The first sightings beyond nesting areas were 8 August in Dane County (McDowell), 9 August in Manitowoc County (Domagalski), and 10 August in Richland County (Duerksen). The last dates were 3 October in Milwaukee County (Bontly), 12 October at the Mosquito Hill Nature Center in Outagamie County (Parks) and, well beyond the rest, 27 October at Wind Point in Racine County (Fare). The high count was 6 on 3 September in Ozaukee County (Wilson).

Prothonotary Warbler—There were three reports. Those three were 14 August in La Crosse County (Malcom), 18 August in Columbia County (Paulios), and 28 August in Crawford County (Collins). The Columbia report was of 3 birds, the others were of 2.

Tennessee Warbler—This warbler was found near the start of the season in the nesting counties of Bayfield (Brady) and Florence (K. Kavanagh). The first finds beyond nesting areas were 10 August in Dane County (McDowell), 10 August in Ozaukee County (Schaefer and Szymczak), and 11 August in Milwaukee County (Bontly). The last dates were 26 October in Dane County (Witynski) and 4 November at Picnic Point in Dane County (Nichols). The high count was 100 on 26 September at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County (West) followed by 35 on 8 September in Brown County (Tessen).

Orange-crowned Warbler—The first fall finds were 26 August in Door County (R. and C. Lukes), 27 August in Brown County (Sinkula), and 27–28 August in Polk County (Maercklein). The last dates were 5 November in Milwaukee County (Wiskowski), 12 November in Milwaukee County (Lubahn), and 15 November in Milwaukee County (Bontly and Zehner). The high count was 6 on 18 October in Milwaukee County (Lubahn).

Nashville Warbler—The first sightings that were likely beyond nesting areas were 2 August in Stevens Point, Portage County (Schaufenbuel), 4 and 10 August in Milwaukee County (Bontly and Zehner), and 14 August in Ozaukee County (Schaefer and Szymczak). The last dates were 19 October in Grant County (McKay) and 21 October in Dane County (M. Anderson). The high count was 25 on 19 September at Pheasant Branch, Dane County (McDowell) followed by 15 on 20 August in Bayfield County (Brady) and 14 on 7 August in Florence County (K. Kavanagh).

Connecticut Warbler—This nesting species was reported from 10 counties with no reports during the month of August. The earliest sighting was on 3 September in Bayfield County (Anich and Brady). The last finds were 26 September in Ozaukee County (Murkowski) and 29 September in Washington County (Schaefer). All reports were of single birds.

Mourning Warbler—Early season reports came from the counties of Bayfield, Door, Milwaukee, Monroe, and Outagamie. The last finds were 15 September in Ozaukee County (Frank) and 19 September in Dane County (Heikki-

nen). The high count was 3 on the dates of 20 August in Bayfield County (Anich and Brady) and 30 August in Milwaukee County (Bontly).

Kentucky Warbler—There was documentation for a single first year bird on 9 September in Ozaukee County (Uttech).

Common Yellowthroat—The last finds were 27 October in Waukesha County (Mertins), 16 November in Grant County (Ouren), 5–22 November at the Schlitz Audubon Center in Milwaukee County (Bontly and Zehner), and 23 November at the Engel Conservation Area in Waukesha County (Gustafson). The high count was 35 on 5 September in Walworth County (Boone and Fitzgerald) followed by 30 on 6 August at Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (W. Mueller).

Hooded Warbler—Reported from the counties of Fond du Lac, Jefferson, Milwaukee, Walworth, and Waukesha with the counties of Jefferson and Waukesha having reports from near the start of the season. Other than the accounts from Walworth County, all other reports came from Szymczak or else Schaefer and Szymczak. The great majority of reports came from the Kettle Moraine of Waukesha County. From three different locations within Waukesha County, Szymczak had finds as late as 25 September, 29 September, and 9 October. There is only one state departure record later than 9 October, that being 20 October 1996 in Ozaukee County (Thomas Wood). The high count was 9 on 8 August in Waukesha County.

American Redstart—The last dates were 15 October in Manitowoc County (Domagalski), 15 October in Ozaukee County (Uttech), 13–16 October in Dane County (Herb), and 18 October in Milwaukee County (Lubahn). The high count was 35 on 14 September in Milwaukee County (Strelka) followed by 25 on 5 September in Brown County (Tessen).

Cape May Warbler—There were no reports from nesting counties of sightings near the start of the fall season. The first finds beyond nesting areas were 15 August in Chippewa County (Steger) and 21 August in Portage County (Janz). The last dates were 10 October in Eau Claire County (Ankeny), 10 October in Marathon County (Hoeft), and 12 October at the Mosquito Hill Nature Center in Outagamie County (Parks). The high count was 15 on 5 September in Brown County (Tessen) followed by 12 on 11 September in Brown County (Schultz).

Cerulean Warbler—The only report was of one bird on 3 August in La Crosse County (Sobon).

Northern Parula—There were few August reports. The only August report from a nesting county was Bayfield (McCloy). August reports from beyond the nesting counties were 14 August in Milwaukee County (Zehner), 21 August in Portage County (Janz), 27 August in Brown County (Sinkula), and 29 August in Manitowoc County (Domagalski). The last dates were 11 October in Eau Claire County (Lind) and 14 October in Milwaukee County (Moerke). Well beyond these was a documented report for 29 October in Sheridan Park, Milwaukee County (T. Wood). There are only two records of a later date. Those two are 3 November 1997 (Dane County by Philip Ashman) and 25 November 1972 (Iowa County by Robert Ellarson). The high count was 3 from a number of locations.

Magnolia Warbler—The only early season reports from a nesting county were from the counties of Door (R. and C. Lukes) and Vilas (Witynski). The first migrant was sighted on 15 August in Oconto County (Reimer). A number of counties reported migrants in the period 21–22 August. The last dates were 8 October in Dane County (Evanson), 10 October in Polk County (Maercklein), and 12 October at the Mosquito Hill Nature Center in Outagamie County (Parks). The high count was 10 on 12 September in Dane County (McDowell) followed by 8 from a number of locations.

Bay-breasted Warbler—The first find was on 21 August in Portage County (Janz). The next sightings were not until 26–27 August when this warbler was reported from the counties of Bayfield, Brown, Florence, Langlade, Monroe, and Ozaukee. The last dates were 3 October in Milwaukee County (Zehner), 8 October in Milwaukee County (Hagner), and 9 October in Ozaukee County (Bontly and Tessen). The high count was 5 on 5 September in Brown County (Tessen).

Blackburnian Warbler—Found near the start of the fall season in the nesting counties of Bayfield (Brady), Door (R. and C. Lukes), and Florence (K. Kavanagh). The first finds beyond the nesting counties were 14 August in Marinette County (Andy Holschbach and the Scheimans), 14 August in Milwaukee County (numerous birders), and 15 August in Oconto County (Reimer). The last dates were 30 September at Pheasant Branch, Dane County (McDowell) and 9 October at Harrington Beach SP,

Ozaukee County (Bontly and Tessen). The high count was 3 from a number of locations.

Yellow Warbler—The last dates were 21 September in Brown County (Swelstad), 9 October in Ozaukee County (Tessen), and 12 October in Grant County (McKay and Mandernack). The high count was 20 on 18 August at Cheroke Marsh, Dane County (M. Anderson) followed by 9 on 15 August in Bayfield County (Brady).

Chestnut-sided Warbler—The last dates were 3 October in Marathon County (Hoeft) and 9 October in Ozaukee County (Tessen). The high count was 10 on 5 September in Brown County (Tessen).

Blackpoll Warbler—The first reports were 20 August in Door County (R. and C. Lukes), 20 August in Bayfield County (Anich, Brady, and Oksiuta), 21 August in Portage County (Janz), 22 August in Chippewa County (Heikkinen), and 22 August in Manitowoc County (Domagalski). The last dates were 17 October at Sheridan Park in Milwaukee County (Szymczak), 27–28 October at Wind Point in Racine County (Fare), and 30 October at the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station in Sheboygan County. It may have been this last bird that was found again on 2 November at Wind Point (Kennedy). This 2 November find is 1 of but 4 records for the month of November in the state. The high count was 11 on 27 August in Bayfield County (Brady) followed by 10 on the dates of 11 September in Brown County (Tessen) and 28 September in Milwaukee County (Huf).

Black-throated Blue Warbler—Reported from 12 counties. This warbler was reported from near the start of the season in Door County (R. and C. Lukes). The only other August find was 29 August in Eau Claire County (Lind). Other early migrant sightings were 4 September in Ozaukee County (Bontly, Frank, and Zehner), 4 September in Walworth County (Wilson), and 7 September in Milwaukee County (Bontly). The last reports were 2–6 October at Pheasant Branch in Dane County (McDowell), 6 October in Grant County (McKay), 12 October at the Mosquito Hill Nature Center in Outagamie County (Parks), and 18 October at Warnimont Park in Milwaukee County (Lubahn). The high count was 6 on 28 September in Milwaukee County (Huf).

Palm Warbler—The only early season report came from Douglas County (the LaValleys). The first birds seen beyond the nesting counties were 25 August in Waukesha County

(Frank), 26 August in Racine County (Howe and Fare), and 27 August in Trempealeau County (Gold). The last dates were 29 October in Milwaukee County (Hahn and Huf), 5 November in Ozaukee County (Wilson) and, well beyond the rest, 23 November in Milwaukee County (Lubahn). The high count was 100 on 17 September in Milwaukee County (Wiskowski) followed by 45 on 22 September in Ozaukee County (Schaefer).

Pine Warbler—A summering bird was reported on 8 August in the Kettle Moraine of Waukesha County (Szymczak). The first finds of migrants away from nesting counties were 21 August in La Crosse County (Wiegel) and 25 August in Sheboygan County (Grgic). The last dates were 12 October in Vilas County (Jim Baughman) and 13 October in Chippewa County (Steger). The high count was 13 on 10 September in Vilas County (A. Holschbach). Nearest to this were 4 from a number of locations.

Yellow-rumped Warbler—There were early fall seasonal reports from the nesting counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Door, Douglas, Florence, Langlade, and Vilas. The first sightings beyond the nesting counties were 27 August in Polk County (Maercklein) and 28 August in Columbia County (Peters and Simoni). Perhaps due to the mild fall and early winter, more of these warblers remained into the winter season than normal. The high count was 112 on 12 October in Vilas County (Jim Baughman) followed by 100 on 26 September in Douglas County (West).

Black-throated Green Warbler—Unlike the Fall of 2010, when only Door County showed this nesting species early in the fall season, this year early season reports came from the nesting counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Door, Florence, Langlade, and Vilas. An early season report also came from the outlier nesting county of Waukesha (Szymczak). The first finds of migrants beyond the nesting counties were 15 August in Milwaukee County (Bontly), 21 August in Eau Claire County (Lind), and 21 August in Milwaukee County (Zehner). The last date was 16 October in the counties of Milwaukee (Flores and Wiskowski) and Ozaukee (Schaefer and Szymczak). The high count was 7 on 28 September in Washington County (Schaefer).

Canada Warbler—The only early season reports from nesting counties came from Florence and Marinette. There was an early migrant report on 8 August from Pheasant

Branch, Dane County (McDowell). Beyond this, the first reports of migrants were 20 August in Polk County (Maercklein), 22 August in Manitowoc County (Domagalski), and 22 August in Milwaukee County (Szymczak). The last dates were 24 September in Douglas County (Tessen) and 27 September in Dane County (Lindemer). The high count was 3 on 28 August in Milwaukee County (Lubahn).

Wilson's Warbler—The first fall find was on 14 August at Harrington Beach SP in Ozaukee County (Schaefer and Szymczak) followed by 21 August in Marinette County (Kluskens) and 22 August in Milwaukee County (Hansen). The last dates were 28 September in Milwaukee County (Huf), 29 September in Brown County (Howe), and 9 October in Milwaukee County (Wiskowski). The high count was 5 on 18 September in Ozaukee County (Yoerger).

Yellow-breasted Chat—There were two reports. The first was on 4 August from the Brooklyn SWA in Dane County (Gustafson); the second was on 27 August from Pheasant Branch in Dane County (Pfeiffer).

Spotted Towhee*—One bird was photographed on 11 October at the feeder of Richard Ouren in Grant County and remained at least until 13 October (when reports ended, Fig. 27). It was seen here as early as 3 October. The 3 October find by Ouren is record early. The record arrival date had been 7 October set in 1993 in Dane County (Ron Lockwood). A second Spotted Towhee was first noticed sometime in the last half of November at a feeder in Wausau, Marathon County. The land owner took a photo of the bird dated from late November. This bird stayed at least through 16 January 2012. There will be more details in the Winter Report.

Eastern Towhee—The last dates were 31 October in Racine County (Pugh), 2 November in Grant County (McKay), and 3 November in Dane County (Herb). This last sighting was followed by another report by Herb on 26 November. The high count was 12 on 11 August in Washington County (Schaefer) and 30 August in Walworth County (Howe).

American Tree Sparrow—This sparrow was not commonly found until the last week in October. The earliest of the few early October reports were 1 October in Bayfield County (Ok-siuta), 1 October in Polk County (Maercklein), and 9 October in Dodge County (Cullen). The high count was 100 on 19 November in La

Crosse County (Puchalski) followed by 94 on 11 November in Manitowoc County (Domagalski).

Chipping Sparrow—The last dates were 7 November in Waukesha County (Kingery), 13 November in Portage County (Janz), and 14 November in Waukesha County (Gustafson). The high count was 80 on 16 September in Marinette County (Pullen) followed by 45 on 19 September in Portage County (Schaufenbuel).

Clay-colored Sparrow—The last dates were 18 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (W. Mueller), 21 October in Polk County (Maercklein), and 23 October at Forest Beach in Ozaukee County (Strelka). The high count was 15 on 10 September at Willow River SP in St. Croix County (Persico) followed by 9 on 8 August at the Buena Vista Grassland, Portage County (Schaufenbuel).

Field Sparrow—The last dates were 30 October in Columbia County (Fotland), 30 October in Walworth County (Howe), 15 November in Waukesha County (Kingery), and 22 November in Chippewa County (Steger). The high count was 18 on 6 August in Green County (A. Anderson) followed by 10 on the dates of 14 October in Dane County (McDowell) and 22 October in Waukesha County (Kingery).

Vesper Sparrow—The last dates were 21 October in Waukesha County (Epstein), 24 October in Chippewa County (Cameron), and 26 October in Manitowoc County (Domagalski). The high count was 5 on the dates of 2 September in Portage County (Schaufenbuel), 10–11 September in Manitowoc County (Domagalski), and 13 October in Washington County (Schaefer).

Savannah Sparrow—The last dates were 29 October in Ozaukee County (Gustafson), 1 November in Burnett County (Holden and Tallman), and 12 November in Jefferson County (Wilson). Most of the high counts came from various locations in Portage County with the highest being 65 on 19 September (Schaufenbuel) and 58 on 16 September (Schaufenbuel).

Grasshopper Sparrow—There were fall reports from the counties of Columbia, Dodge, Grant, Racine, Sauk, Trempealeau, and Waukesha. Most reports were from early in the season from nesting counties. The exceptions were one bird on 12 October in Grant County (McKay) and a bird on 12–13 November (Fig. 28) in Racine County (many observers). The 12–13 November find is record late by about two

weeks. The late date had been 28 October 1970 in Eau Claire County (Charles Kemper). The high count was 6 on 13 August in Trempealeau County (Malcom).

Henslow's Sparrow—There were fall reports from the counties of Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Green, Monroe, Richland, Sauk, and Waukesha. All reports were from early in the season with the last dates being 23 August in Dane County (M. Anderson) and 24 August in Monroe County (Epstein). All reports were of one or two birds, the exception being 10 on 6 August in Green County (A. Anderson).

Le Conte's Sparrow—The only early season report was from the nesting county of Douglas (the LaValleys). Beyond that there were migrant reports of single birds from three counties, those three being Manitowoc (23 September, Sontag), Sauk (6 October, Batterman), and Waukesha (25 August, Weber).

Nelson's Sparrow—There were reports from Dane and Kewaunee Counties. Most reports were from Lake Barney, Dane County (Fig. 29) in the period 25 September through 22 October. The Kewaunee report was of one bird on 1 October (Prestby). The high count was 6 on 25 September at Lake Barney (Thiessen).

Fox Sparrow—The bulk of migrants did not arrive until the latter half of October. The only September arrival reports were 14 September in Portage County (Pendergast), 17 September in Marinette County (A. Holschbach), 22 September in Douglas County (Tessen), and 25 September in Bayfield County (Brady). As usual, some individuals remained into the winter season. Most of the high counts came from Pheasant Branch, Dane County with the highest counts being 50 on 27 October (McDowell) and 30 on 21–22 October (McDowell). Outside of Pheasant Branch, the high count was 23 on 26 October in Manitowoc County (Domagalski).

Song Sparrow—This sparrow was found throughout the period and into the winter season. The high count was 70 on 18 October at Forest Beach, Ozaukee County (W. Mueller) followed by 53 on 5 September at Turtle Valley SWA, Walworth County (Boon and Fitzgerald).

Lincoln's Sparrow—Although this sparrow is a nesting species in the northern regions of the state, the only August report was 2 August in Sawyer County (Gordon). The first migrant was found on 3 September in Sauk County (Batterman) followed by finds on 6 September in

the counties of Manitowoc (Domagalski), Milwaukee (Bontly), and Portage (Schauffenbuel). The last dates were 23 October in Walworth County (Howe), 24 October in Waukesha County (Kingery), and 27 October in Grant County (Fischer and McKay). The high count was 17 on 20 September in Vilas County (David) followed by 16 on 18 October in Milwaukee County (Lubahn).

Swamp Sparrow—Found at or near the end of the fall season in the counties of Columbia (Paulios), Dodge (Wiskowski), Milwaukee (Wilson), and Rock (Evanson). Members of this species remained into the winter season. The high count was 45 on the dates of 2 October at Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (Wilson) and 9 October at Lulu Lake, Walworth County (Howe).

White-throated Sparrow—The first reports of migrants beyond nesting areas were 3 September in Racine County (Kennedy), 5 September in Kenosha County (Costa), 5 September in Polk County (Maercklein), and 10 September in St. Croix County (Persico). As usual, numbers of these sparrows remained into the winter season. The high counts were 170 on 1 October in Racine County (Lubahn) and 140 on 18 October in Milwaukee County (Lubahn). Nearest to these were 80 on 18 October in Ozaukee County (W. Mueller).

Harris's Sparrow—Reported from 11 counties. The first find was on 20 September in Ashland County (Mertins) followed by numerous reports on 23–24 September from Wisconsin Point in Douglas County by participants in the WSO field trip. The last sighting was on 7 November in Milwaukee County (Boyle). The high count was of two birds.

White-crowned Sparrow—The first dates were 10 September in St. Croix County (Persico), 15 September in Burnett County (Paulios), and 19 September in Ozaukee County (Schaefer). As usual, some White-crowned remained into the winter season. The high count was 120 on 18 October at Forest Beach, Ozaukee County (W. Mueller) followed by 50 on 14 and 18 October at Pheasant Branch, Dane County (McDowell).

Dark-eyed Junco—The only August report from a nesting county was on 7 August in Douglas County (McCloy). The only other August report for the entire state was of a migrant on 29 August on the UW Campus, Madison, Dane County (Marschalek). Other early migrant dates were 6 September in Marinette County

(Pullen), 17 September in Portage County (Janz), 19 September in Portage County (Schauffenbuel), and 23 September in Burnett County (Paulios). Juncos did not begin to show until the last few days of September and the first week of October. On 30 September, juncos showed in the counties of Dane, Milwaukee, Sheboygan, Vernon, Washington, and Waukesha. The high count was 230 on 15 October in Juneau County (Puchalski) followed by 135 on 2 November in Grant County (McKay).

Summer Tanager—There were three reports. Those three were a male on 22 September in Kenosha County (Donna White), a female 1–6 November in Sawyer County (Cheryl Wake), and a female on 28–29 November in Dane County (Colleen Feist).

Scarlet Tanager—The last dates were 12 October in Crawford County (Sandstrom), 12 October in Monroe County (Epstein), and 15 October in Ozaukee County (Uttech). The high count was 4 on 29 August in Rock County (Cullum).

Western Tanager—A Western Tanager was photographed (Fig. 30) and documented in the period 1–6 November at Merrill in Lincoln County (first reported by Belter). These reports were record late by more than a month. The record late date had been 3 October 1997 in Dane County by Chuck Heikkinen. There is also an over wintering record for the period 29 January through 30 April 1993 in Milwaukee County (Vera Karon).

Northern Cardinal—Reported from the far northern counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, Florence, and Oneida. The high count was 41 on 1 October in Milwaukee County (Bontly) followed by 24 on 26 November in La Crosse County (Rownd) and 22 on 31 October in La Crosse County (Wiegel).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—The last October dates were 13 October in Dane County (Sonzogni), 18 October in Rock County (Cullum), and 30 October in Taylor County (Risch). Well beyond these were 24 November in Richland County (Freeman) and 26–30 November in Vernon County (Roth-Reynolds). The high count was 30 on 5 September in Brown County (Tessen) followed by 21 on 3 September in St. Croix County (Persico).

Indigo Bunting—The last October dates were 9 October in Milwaukee County (Mooney) and 16 October in Dane County (Clausen). Well beyond these were 23 November in Door

County (T. Kile) and 25 November in Racine County (Enders and Mooney). These November finds are two of but three November reports in the state records. The high count was 14 on the dates of 6 August in Green County (A. Anderson) and 17 September in Marinette County followed by 13 on 1 August in Ozaukee County (Frank).

Dickcissel—Reported from 10 counties, the most unusual being Marinette County on 9 August (K. Kavanagh). The last dates were 5 September in Portage County (Pendergast), 6 September in Portage County (Schaufenbuel), and 11 September in Portage County (Pendergast). All three reports were from different areas within Portage County. The high count was 18 on 6 August in Green County (A. Anderson) followed by 6 on the dates of 24 August in Portage County (Pendergast) and 6 September in Portage County (Schaufenbuel).

Bobolink—The last sightings were 21 September in Portage County (Pendergast), 1 October in Kewaunee County (Howe and Prestby), and 25 September through 9 October at Lake Barney, Dane County (last seen by Schneider). The high count was 85 on 27 August in Portage County (Pendergast and Zinda) followed by 48 on 5 September in Walworth County (Boone and Fitzgerald).

Red-winged Blackbird—The high count was 9,051 on 14 September in Grant County (McKay) followed by 5,000 on the dates of 5 November at Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (Hermann) and 6 October at Elkhart Lake, Sheboygan County (Cameron).

Eastern Meadowlark—The last dates were 11 November in Grant County (Stark), 11 November in Portage County (Kozak), and 18 November in Milwaukee County (Lubahn). The high count was 17 on 3 October in Manitowoc County (J. Holschbach) followed by 13 on 21 September from another location in Manitowoc County (Domagalski).

Western Meadowlark—The only counties reporting this meadowlark were Dane, Grant, and Portage, with a report near the start of the season from the Buena Vista Grasslands of Portage County (Schaufenbuel). The last report was on 10 November in Grant County (McKay). The high count was 8 on 8 August from the Buena Vista Grasslands of Portage County (Schaufenbuel).

Yellow-headed Blackbird—Reported from 15 counties with finds near the start of the

season in the counties of Brown, Dodge, Manitowoc, Marathon, Outagamie, and Winnebago. The last dates were 27 September in Dunn County (Bigham), 9 October in Ozaukee County (N. Cutright), and 25 October at Eagle Valley in Grant County (Stark). The high count was 16 on 21 August at the Zeloski Marsh in Jefferson County (Prestby and Yoerger) followed by 15 on 19 August in Outagamie County (Tessen).

Rusty Blackbird—The first dates were 13 September in Ozaukee County (N. Cutright), 16 September in Portage County (Pendergast), and 22 September in Forest County (Dixon, Fare, and Wenzel). The last dates were 22 November in Outagamie County (Tessen), 23 November in Waukesha County (Schaefer and Szymczak), and 25 November in Dodge County (Schaefer and Szymczak). The high count was 600 on 11 November at Muskrat Lake, Rock County (Schultz) followed by 550 on 11 November in Kewaunee County (Trick).

Brewer's Blackbird—The only early season report came from Portage County (Schaufenbuel). The first find of migrants beyond nesting counties was 5 August at the Wind Lake Sod Farms in Racine County (numerous birders). The last dates were 7 November in Dodge County (Dunwiddie), 11 November in Dane County (Warneke), and 27 November in Burnett County (McInroy). The high count was 500 on 7 November at the Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (Dunwiddie) followed by 290 in Portage County on 19 September (Schaufenbuel) and 152 on 29 August in Racine County (Howe).

Common Grackle—The high count was 1,800 on 18 September at Lulu Lake, Walworth County (Howe) followed by 1,520 at Lulu Lake on 6 November (Howe).

Brown-headed Cowbird—Reported from only 30 counties. The only northern counties to report this bird were Florence (one bird on 17 August, K. Kavanagh), Oconto (1 bird on 15 August, Reimer), Polk (2 reports with the maximum of 2 birds on 12 August, Maercklein), and St. Croix (two birds on 6 August, McCloy). Beyond this, one must go south to Kewaunee, Manitowoc, and Marathon Counties to find this species. This would indicate that the cowbird is nearly absent from the northern third of the state by 1 August. The high count was 500 on 10 November at the Horicon Marsh, Dodge County (W. Mueller) followed by 400 on 19 October in Waukesha County (Gustafson) and 200 on 19 September in Dane County (Nichols).

Orchard Oriole—Found in the counties of Brown, Crawford, Dane, Jefferson, La Crosse, Milwaukee, and Waukesha. The only early season report was from Crawford County (Sandstrom). The last report was on 25 August in the counties of Dane (Earl) and Jefferson (Henrikson). The high count was 3 on 21 August in Milwaukee County (Hagner).

Baltimore Oriole—The last September dates were 14 September in Sheboygan County (Grgic), 14 September in Waukesha County (Gustafson), and 21 September in Milwaukee County (W. Mueller). Well beyond these was a bird coming to the suet feeder of Connie and Gary Ruplinger in Marathon City, Marathon County. The bird first showed on 11 November and was last seen on 17 January 2012. The high count was 10 on 18 August in Crawford County (Sandstrom) followed by 8 on 13 and 25 August in La Crosse County (Wiegel).

Pine Grosbeak—The only report was of a single bird on 30 October at the Houghton Falls Nature Preserve, Bayfield County (Brady). This is in contrast to the previous fall when this grosbeak was found in the counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, Forest, Lincoln, Marinette, Price, and Vilas.

Purple Finch—This nesting species was found near the start of the season in the counties of Bayfield, Burnett, Door, Florence, Marinette, Sawyer, and Taylor. The first mention of birds beyond their nesting counties was 7 August in Polk County (Maercklein) followed by 16 August in Sheboygan County (Andy Holschbach and the Scheimans). The high count was 93 on 27 October from Eagle Valley in Grant County (Fischer and McKay) followed by 37 on 17 October at Forest Beach, Ozaukee County (Schaefer).

House Finch—Found as far north as the northern tier counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, and Vilas. The high count was 50 on 10 October in Waukesha County (Mertins) followed by 40 on 19 October in Dane County (Ellis).

Red Crossbill—Reported from 9 counties with the most unusual find being of one bird on 4 November in Dane County (Ellis). The only August report was 18 August in Forest County (Gustafson). The next find was not until 21 October in Oneida County (Prestby). The high counts were 26 and 27 in the period 2–5 November in the yard of Jim Baughman in Vilas County.

White-winged Crossbill—Reported from 16 counties. Finds south of the northern fringe of counties came from Eau Claire, Grant, Iowa, Lincoln, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, and Portage. The only August report was 16 August in Marinette County (Kluskens). The next sightings did not come until 23 September in Douglas County (Tessen) and 19 October in Vilas County (Prestby). The high count was 90 on 13 November in Bayfield County (Brady) followed by 22 on 22 November in Portage County (Brocken).

Common Redpoll—Reported from 18 counties. This is in contrast to 9 counties in 2010. Unlike last fall, when nearly every report was from the far north, this fall there were reports from such southern counties as Columbia, Dane, Milwaukee, and Ozaukee. Reports of redpolls continued strong and widespread into the winter season. The first dates were 20–21 October in Vilas County (Prestby), 21 October in Oneida County (Prestby), and 26 October in Bayfield County (Brady). The high count was 79 on 18 November in Forest County (A. Holschbach) followed by 70 on 30 October in Bayfield County (Brady).

Pine Siskin—The only August reports for this nesting species were 19 August in Oneida County (Gustafson) and 22 August in Marinette County (the Pullens). The first dates for migrants beyond nesting counties were 5 September in Winnebago County (Ziebell) and 7 September in Milwaukee County (Bontly). The high count was 280 on 22 October at Harrington Beach SP, Ozaukee County (Schaefer and Szymczak) followed by 245 on 25 September in Bayfield County (Brady).

American Goldfinch—The high count was 525 on 7 November in Dane County (La Puma) followed by 350 on 14 October in Dane County (Evanson) and 234 on 29 September in Grant County (Mandernack).

European Goldfinch—One bird was found at the feeder of Terrie Phenicie on 6 November in Marinette County. Although this released species is not a countable bird in Wisconsin, it likely now has nesting records within the state and might later become established. The intention from this time forward is to keep track of this bird. Reports of this goldfinch would be appreciated for future Seasonal Field Notes.

Evening Grosbeak—Found in the counties of Bayfield, Douglas, Florence, Forest, Marinette, and Vilas. There were early season

reports from both Bayfield and Douglas Counties (McCloy). The high count was 19 on 18 November in Forest County (A. Holschbach) followed by 14 on 31 August in Marinette County (the Kavanaghs).

House Sparrow—The high count was 141 on 19 October in Grant County (McKay) followed by 130 on 12 November in Manitowoc County (Domagalski).

CONTRIBUTORS

David Adair, Danny Akers, Alan Anderson, Chris Anderson, Marge Anderson, Renner Anderson, Nick Anich, Paula Anich, Brent Ankeny, Philip Arnholt, Ian Batterman, James Baughman, Dan Belter, Ray Bender, Mark Benson, Steve Betchkal, John Bigham, Andrew Birch, Marilyn Bontly, Aaron Boone, Owen Boyle, Ryan Brady, David Bratley, Cynthia Bridge, Maureen Brocken, Paul Bruce, Erik Bruhnke, Bob Bucci, Samuel Burckhard, Rory Cameron, Joan Campbell, Pamela Campbell, Nathan Carlsen, Cedar Grove Ornithological Station, Richard Cimino, Hean Clausen, Brian Collins, Jan Collins, Gail Coombs, Jill Costa, Paul Costoff, Jack Coulter, Dan Crowson, Joshua Cullum, Mary Cullen, John Curnutt, Joanne Curry, Noel Cutright, Seth Cutright, Guy David, Jerry DeBoer, Kevin DeBoer, Matthew Dembroski, Scott Diehl, Raymond Dischler, John Dixon, Bob Domagalski, Brian Doverspike, Mike Duchek, Barbara Duerksen, Peter Dunwiddie, Alia Durfee, Mary Earll, Jim Edlhuber, Bruce Edmonson, Jesse Ellis, D. Enders, Eric Epstein, Marty Evanson, Rick Fare, Collen Feist, Tim Fenske, Ralph Fischer, Peter Fissel, Sean Fitzgerald, David Flores, Glenn Forchione, G. Foster, Barbi Fotland, Grant Frank, Jim Frank, Robyn Free-

man, Dave Freriks, Steve Fronsee, Mel Goff, Mallcolm Gold, Mike Goodman, Caleb Gordon, Davor Grgic, Shari Griffis, Oscar Grouch, Dennis Gustafson, Kari Hagenow, Charles Hagner, Tim Hahn, Karen Etter Hale, Brian Hansen, Judy Haseleu, Robert Heagle, Chuck Heikkinen, Mary Helgren, Ginny Helland, Charles Henrikson, Rebecca Herb, Kelly Herrmann, Jed Hertz, Vickie Hirschboeck, Joyce Hoeft, James Hoeft, John Holden, Aaron Holschbach, Andy Holschbach, Jim Holschbach, Patrick Horn, Eric Howe, Judith Huf, Paul Hunter, Dan Jackson, Paul Jakowbek, Gerry Janz, Robbye Johnson, Daryl Kaberle, Bob Kavanagh, Kay Kavanagh, Sharon Kennedy, Tina Kepple, Douglas Kieser, Tom Kile, Jeff Kingery, Michael Kloepping, Claire Kluskens, Jim Knickelbine, Gerald Koehn, Nolan Kollath, Jan Kraemer, Larry Kraemer, Jim Krakowski, Kim Kreitinger, Katie Kozak, John Krerowicz, Sam Krerowicz, David La Puma, Laura LaValley, Steve LaValley, Gil Lewis, Will Lewis, Jana Lind, Kyle Lindemer, Clark Lindo, John Longhenry, Steven Lubahn, Charlotte Lukes, Roy Lukes, Carol Lynn, Robin Maercklein, Jim Malcom, Stuart Malcolm, Brett Mandernack, Daniel Marschalek, Chester Martin, Mike McCloy, Matt McDonald, Mike McDowell, Bob McInroy, Kelly McKay, Tom Mertins, Lisa Mettel, Patti Metzler, Scott Meyer, Barry Moerke, Carol Moerke, Jym Mooney, Helmut Mueller, William Mueller, Steve Murkowski, Thomas Mye, Peter Nichols, Mariette Nowak, Tim Oksuta, Chris Olson, Jim Otto, Richard Ouren, Jered Parks, Andy Paulios, Jim Pecquex, Mike Peczynski, Rob Pendergast, Larryk Persico, Rick Pertile, Danielle Peters, Chris Petherick, Steve

Petznick, Martin Pfeiffer, Terrie Phenicie, Janine Polk, Tom Prestby, Scott Puchalski, Helen Pugh, Gail Pullen, Lee Pullen, Andrew Reimer, Ari Rice, Nancy Richmond, Ryan Rickaby, Paul J. Risch, Ralph Rogers, Ronald Rohde, John Romano, Stan Rosenstiel, Jay Roth-Reynolds, Brooks Rownd, Kelly Rueckheim, Connie Ruplinger, Gary Ruplinger, Mike Sandstrom, Thomas Schaefer, Joseph Schaufenbuel, Dan Scheiman, Samantha Scheiman, Darrell Schiffman, Paul Schilke, Sigrid Schmidt, Ryan Schmitz, Daniel Schneider, Carl Schroeder, Thomas Schultz, Jim Schwarz, N. Seeger, Rebecca Setzer, Jen Simoni, Adam Sinkula, Larry Sirvio, Stan Skutek, Kenneth Sobon, Scott Somershoe, Joan Sommer, Charles Sontag, Bill Sonzogni, Bob

Spahn, Alex Stark, Brad Steger, Bruce Steger, Douglas Stratton, Jean Strelka, Dustin Stroik, Aaron Stutz, Peder H. Svingen, Jack Swelstad, Jason Swelstad, Andrea Szymczak, Ellise Tallard, Dan Tallman, Stanley Temple, Daryl Tessen, Steve Thiessen, Nancy Tikalsky, Joel Trick, Patti Trick, Ken Uslabar, Tom Uttech, Tim Vargo, Jim Veltman, Elaine Vokoun, Joanne Wagner, Cheryl Wake, Sylvia Walker, C. Warneke, Jason Weber, Kristin Wegner, Herbert Weigl, Kathy Weigl, Jennifer Wenzel, Chris West, Donna White, Gary Wiegel, David Willard, Todd Wilson, Marlyn Winter, John Winze, Rita Flores Wiskowski, Max Witznski, Eric Wood, Kevin Wood, Thomas C. Wood, Linda Woodard, Quentin Yoerger, Norma Zehner, Tom Ziebell, Brad Zinda

50 Years Ago in *The Passenger Pigeon*

The Cattle Egret made news in this issue. The species was officially added as species number 350 to Wisconsin's official list in 1960 when it was documented near Janesville by J. Harwood Evans on 21 April . This species was unknown in North America until 1952. In 1960, it also showed up in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire.

In this autumn issue, Richard Hunt talks about several observations of Cattle Egrets at Horicon in 1962, and Robert Frankowiak from Milwaukee's Public Museum accomplished a first (and maybe only) for *The Passenger Pigeon*. In his notes on habits and identification of the Cattle Egret, he prepared an illustration of it along with a Common (Great) Egret, Snowy Egret, and an immature Little Blue Heron. This full-page drawing could actually be removed from the journal because the insert was perforated along the fold. It was suggested that it be removed, trimmed, and placed in a favorite field guide because many field guides of that day did not include Cattle Egret, and birders were having considerable difficulty identifying the species. It also was noted that the bird's presence had prompted Owen Gromme to devote an additional full color plate of it and other rare or unusual bird visitants to the state in his Wisconsin bird book.

Excerpt from Vol. 24(3), 1962, by WSO Historian Noel J. Cutright, 3352 Knollwood Road, West Bend, WI 53095. h. 262 .675. 2443, w. 262. 268. 3617, noel.cutright@we-energies.com.



Yellow-rumped Warbler by Tom Wright

“By The Wayside”—Fall 2011

The rare or uncommon species for which documentation was provided for the Fall 2011 season included Eurasian Wigeon, King Eider, Red Phalarope, Black-legged Kittiwake, Inca Dove, Broad-billed Hummingbird, Vermilion Flycatcher, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, White-eyed Vireo, Spotted Towhee, and Western Tanager.

EURASIAN WIGEON (*Anas penelope*)

10 November 2011, Potosi Point, Grant County—The bird was observed in a shallow backwater area, within an extensive cattail wetland. The surrounding habitat consisted of open Mississippi River side channel and floodplain forest. The male was observed foraging with a small mixed flock of various “puddle ducks.” The bird was similar in size and shape to the American Wigeons which were present. The back and sides were distinctly gray with a prominent white crescent near the rear of the bird separating the gray sides from the black undertail coverts. You could definitely see the white and green wing speculum. The breast was a “peachy reddish” color. The entire head was distinctly reddish brown. The prominent crown patch was more “buffy yellowish” not white like American [Wigeon] males. The bill was bluish.—*Kelly J. McKay, Hampton, Illinois.*

12 November 2011, Potosi, Grant County—This duck was among a good variety of puddle ducks including American Wigeon. The forehead and crown were a creamy yellow, otherwise the head including the face was unmarked rufous. The breast was pink and the back and sides were gray. A horizontal white line separated the wings from the sides. The undertail coverts were solid black and the femoral tract was white, separating the rear from the sides of the bird. The bill was blue with a black nail. The speculum was seen when the duck extended its wing, and due to lighting conditions appeared black. There was a white forewing patch in front of the speculum.—*Thomas Wood, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.*

KING EIDER (*Somateria spectabilis*)

28 November 2011, Milwaukee Harbor by Art Museum, Milwaukee County—Upon arriving, I found sev-

eral birders viewing the King Eider in back of the art museum in Milwaukee. The eider was absurdly close much of the time we watched it. It was larger than the adjacent scaup. The wings were a dark brown. The head was round and brown with a buffy/whitish eyeline starting by the eyes and extending down the back side of the face. The bill was orangish near the top, non-orange near the tip. The feathering extended down the top of the bill, but only slightly along its sides (contrast to Common Eider). The breast was a soft tan while the sides (flanks) were somewhat darker colored with markings. It actively fed, occasionally briefly resting. When diving, it would bring zebra mussels to the surface which it ate.—*Daryl Tessen, Appleton, Wisconsin.*

RED PHALAROPE
(*Phalaropus fulicarius*)

7 November 2011, Shoop Park, Wind Point, Racine County—A solitary shore bird, smaller than a Killdeer, was seen swimming close to shore. It was blackish on the crown (white forehead), primaries, some feathers on the back (molting), and on a stripe extending backwards from the eye toward the nape. Most of the rest of the plumage was white, except for a mostly gray back and faint rusty coloring on the upper breast and sides of the neck. The bill was black and much thicker than other phalarope species. It never showed its wings extended and never walked on land to show its leg color.—*Dennis Gustafson, Muskego, Wisconsin.*

15 November 2011, North Point Park, City of Sheboygan, Sheboygan

County—This phalarope was in adult plumage. The back was solid pale gray without streaks or any other markings. The underparts were clean white. The forehead and face were white except for a black postocular patch that extended rearward and hooked slightly downward at the rear of the face. The very tips of the wings were black. The nape was black and this extended onto the crown where it split into thin lateral crown stripes partway over the crown. The bill was short, stout for a phalarope (not needle-like), and black except for yellow at the base of the lower mandible. The bird was feeding very close to shore and stood once, allowing me to see dull yellow legs.—*Thomas Wood, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.*

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE
(*Rissa tridactyla*)

6 November 2011, Muskrat Lake, Rock County—About an hour later I noticed a Bonaparte's Gull flying around the lake. Somewhat later another small gull joined it. However this proved to be an immature Black-legged Kittiwake! It stayed on the lake for the next half hour, joined by some Ring-billed Gulls. The Kittiwake alternated by flying around the lake and resting on the water. Arriving birders would not believe a Kittiwake until we showed them it. Especially in flight the slightly larger size than Bonaparte's could be seen. The head had a spot behind the eye, a black bill with the remainder [of the] head white. Most distinct were 3 marks: the black half collar; the black W across the wings; black tail band. The breast was white while the mantle and inner

wings were gray. It hung around for a half hour putting on a great show. Curiously when we resumed looking for the Vermilion [Flycatcher], finding it on the backside, the Kittiwake flew through our scope views, apparently departing then. Now that is a unique twosome—Kittiwake and Vermilion!—*Daryl Tessen, Appleton, Wisconsin.*

INCA DOVE
(*Columbina inca*)

15 November 2011, Concordia University, Mequon, Ozaukee County—When flushed, this small dove showed white outer tail feathers on its long tail and rusty primaries. Perched, its red iris, scaly head and body of a tan/gray color, and small size were again noted. While it was preening its feathers, the rusty primaries were again visible. The long tail was all white below. There were no dark marks on the coverts or scapulars.—*Dennis Gustafson, Muskego, Wisconsin.*

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD
(*Cynanthus latirostris*)

15 November 2011, Mequon, Ozaukee County—This hummingbird looked larger than a Ruby-throated with a fairly long, slightly decurved bill. Most of the bill was black, but the lower mandible underneath was reddish. The front and undersides were uniform gray, with whitish undertail coverts. Upper parts were a mixture of gray and pale green with dark wings. From above when spread, the tail was wide, showed a distinct notch and a dark terminal band extended across the entire tail, with white at the corners. There was a thin white supercil-

ium above a blackish cheek patch extending to the eye. The cheek patch contrasted with the very pale throat.—*Dennis Gustafson, Muskego, Wisconsin.*

15 November 2011, Mequon, Ozaukee County—The hummingbird had a long downcurved bill which was red on the lower mandible from the base to about two-thirds its length and was otherwise black. The face was dark gray with a broad white supercilium, and the crown was also gray. The upperparts were green with a small amount of iridescence that made it appear to have golden flecks. The underparts were a uniform gray down to the undertail coverts which were white, except for the sides, which were green. The underside of the tail was black and the uppersurface of the tail was black with the three outer feathers on each side having white tips. The tail also had a distinct notch in the center. The spread tail was visible only for a couple of seconds, so I asked Cynthia Bridge, who was photographing the bird, if I could see the image of the spread tail in the viewfinder of her camera, and this confirmed what I had seen. The bird was visiting the feeder for 30 seconds to about 90 seconds every 12 minutes. It also perched high on limbs in the trees in the yard, affording good looks at the lower mandible.—*Thomas Wood, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.*

VERMILION FLYCATCHER
(*Pyrocephalus rubinus*)

7 November 2011, at Wallin and Stebbinsville Roads by Muskrat Lake, Rock County—This was a mostly red bird, a little smaller than [Eastern] bluebirds (same field of view at one

point). Underneath, from breast to undertail coverts the bird was red, with a slight orange cast (suggesting either an immature or molting bird). The crown was also red, while the throat was much paler, almost grayish. The uppersides were dark gray, almost black, with an extension of this towards the eye, between the reddish crown and cheeks. There were faint whitish wing bars and the tail was slightly forked, when perched. The thin short bill was all black.—*Dennis Gustafson, Muskego, Wisconsin.*

11 November 2011, Muskrat Lake at Stebbinsville and Wallin Roads, Rock County—Today, with the bird in binocular distance and perched several times on a limb, sometimes looking for insects and one time preening, I saw the following: The underparts were red. At certain angles they seemed an orangish-red, and sometimes they appeared pinkish red. The crown when [the bird was] perched was unremarkable, seemingly dull red mottled with black until the bird started preening and the sun illuminated the crown. When it tilted its head forward, then the bright red vermillion color from the back of the crown to the forehead became the brightest and most brilliant part of the bird. The wings, mantle, nape, and tail were jet black with no wing bars, spots, or mottling. The black from the nape continued forward in a wide bar onto the face, encompassing the eye. The bill was very short, thin, and black, and the legs were black.—*Thomas Wood, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.*

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*Tyrannus forficatus*)

3 November 2011, west side of County E about a quarter of a mile south of County O, Kewaunee County—I spotted this bird resting on top of a small shed or bin in a farmyard. It may have been looking for insects, but it was not finding any. The head and mantle were plain, unmarked light gray. The underparts were a dingy white but with a pink wash on the sides and undertail coverts. The throat was white. The black tail was very long and split at the end, and had a white undersurface. I estimated it to be about 2/3 the length of the body, far too short for an adult. The wings were dark brownish gray and the secondaries and tertials had some thin white edging. The bill was short and black.—*Thomas Wood, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.*

WHITE-EYED VIREO (*Vireo griseus*)

28 October 2011, Sheridan Park, Cudahy, Milwaukee County—I spotted this bird foraging in a tree right below the edge of the bluff. It was with a small group of Yellow-rumped Warblers, Golden- and Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and one Wilson's [Warbler]. I was able to make a quick size comparison with the Myrtles [Yellow-rumps] to determine that the WE Vireo was a bit smaller but was the typical vireo shape in that it was stocky with a thick but pointed bill. I knew right away it was a vireo but since I had recently read something about Cassin's I was initially considering this species. Hopeful thinking. A quick

trip to the car to confirm the ID wasn't some avian fantasy but just a WE Vireo. I returned to observe the bird another 20 minutes. I believe this bird was a first winter because the iris was darker and not the pale eye you see in spring. It had a gray head and nape becoming a bit olive colored toward the cap. The lores were yellow which wrapped around the eye giving it a spectacled look. It also had a black line that extend from the base of the bill to the iris. The cheek was grayish which contrasted with the whitish throat. The back was olive green colored. The greater and lesser coverts were blackish colored with pale warm whitish tips giving the bird two contrasting wing bars. It's interesting that the wing bars had a slightly yellowish tone to them. The primaries were also dark and I noticed pale edging to the innermost primaries as well. The rump was the same olive as the back and the tail was dark gray color. No white on the outer rectrices. There was bright yellow on the sides, flanks down to the undertail. The legs and bill were a cool (slightly bluish) gray. The bird occasionally flicked its tail, foraged in a slower, heavier manner typical of vireos. No doubt in my mind this was a WE Vireo.—*Steven Lubahn, Cudahy, Wisconsin.*

SPOTTED TOWHEE
(*Pipilo maculatus*)

13 October 2011, feeder of Richard Ouren in Muscoda, Grant County—I arrived at Dick Ouren's home (near Muscoda) around noon. Initially the bird had not appeared that morning but towards 11:00 it came. Within several minutes after joining Dick, his

wife, and Chris West, the Spotted Towhee appeared by a stump in the backyard, joining Eastern Towhees. What surprised me was that the black head, back, and wings were more brownish than the photos had shown. The dark head, mantle, and wings contrasted with the rufous sides and white belly of said towhee, but the clear spots on the back and upper wings said Spotted, not Eastern. There were 4 Easterns also feeding, making for a nice comparison. The brownish/black coloration indicated an immature male Spotted Towhee.—*Daryl Tessen, Appleton, Wisconsin.*

WESTERN TANAGER
(*Piranga ludoviciana*)

3 November 2011, feeder in Merrill, Lincoln County—This tanager landed on a branch above my head and then quickly proceeded to the suet feeder on the deck. It remained there about 3 minutes and then flew to the pines on the north side of the house where it sunned itself. It was still there when I left. It had very bright yellow underparts from the breast to the undertail coverts, and a bright yellow rump. The wings were black, and while not showing a defined wing bar, there were yellow marking of various sizes on the wing. The tail was also black. There was red on the face and throat, but much less than would be seen on a breeding male. The crown was yellow with scattered black speckles. The short, stout bill was yellow.—*Thomas Wood, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.*

6 November 2011, Riverside Drive, Merrill, Lincoln County—Yellow bird with black back and tail. Also, black

wings with two distinct wingbars. Head was yellow except for red on the face. I did not attempt to determine the color of the wingbars. This bird was

about 7 inches long; larger than the nuthatches and chickadees that I saw, but smaller than the cardinals.—*Rory Cameron, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.*



Hooded Merganser portrait by David Lund

WSO Records Committee Report: Fall 2011

Ryan Brady

*75355 Bourgo Road
Washburn, Wisconsin 54891
715. 373. 0230
ryanbrady10@hotmail.com*

Fall 2011 was a remarkable season for rarities in Wisconsin, particularly vagrants from the southwestern U.S. The WSO Records Committee painstakingly reviewed 103 records of 36 species for the season, accepting 84 of them (82%). Many of the accepted species were seen by multiple observers over multiple days and/or were well documented with photographs.

Season highlights included the state's first Inca Dove (bringing the state list to 435 species), second Broad-billed Hummingbird, fourth Say's Phoebe, sixth Vermillion Flycatcher, and eighth Black Vulture. Also noteworthy were Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Black-legged Kittiwake in Rock County, Sabine's Gull away from Wisconsin Point, 4 Pacific Loons, 3 Red Phalaropes, King Eider, and Eurasian Wigeon. Buff-breasted Sandpiper was record late by over a month

and Grasshopper Sparrow by two weeks.

All observers who submitted documentations were notified of the committee's decisions by e-mail. This committee report differs from those previous by listing accepted records in table format without accompanying text descriptions. Feedback from readers on this new approach is welcome and encouraged.

ACCEPTED RECORDS

Table 1 provides a list of records accepted by the WSO Records Committee during the Fall 2011 season. Information on each record, such as species, location, observer(s), date(s), etc., is accompanied by the tally of votes made by the five-person committee. Records with one or no dissenting votes are accepted into the state records.

Table 1. List of records accepted by the WSO Records Committee during the Fall 2011 season. Numbers in right column represent the tally of votes by the five-person committee (accept – not accept).

Black Vulture (#2011-058) — Cedar Grove, Ozaukee County	
H. Mueller, 17 October 2011	4–1
Black-legged Kittiwake (#2011-060) — Lake Michigan, Milwaukee County	
D. Schneider, 22 November 2011	4–1
Black-legged Kittiwake (#2011-061) — Muskrat Lake, Rock County	
E. Howe, 6 November 2011 (photos)	5–0
T. Wood, 6 November 2011	5–0
D. Tessen, 6 November 2011	5–0
Broad-billed Hummingbird (#2011-062) — Mequon, Ozaukee County	
R. Bender & T. Keppel, 2 November 2011 (photo)	5–0
D. Tessen, 14 November 2011	4–1
T. Wood, 15 November 2011	5–0
D. Gustafson, 15 November 2011	5–0
J. Edlhuber, 17 November 2011 (photos)	5–0
D. Freriks, 18 November 2011 (photos)	5–0
Buff-breasted Sandpiper (#2011-063) — Horicon NWR, Dodge County	
T. Wood, 30 October 2011 (late)	5–0
J. Mooney, 7 November 2011 (late)	5–0
Eurasian Wigeon (#2011-067) — Potosi, Grant County	
K. McKay, 10 November 2011	5–0
T. Wood, 12 November 2011	5–0
Grasshopper Sparrow (#2011-069) — Racine, Racine County	
K. Wegner, 12 November 2011 (late; photos)	5–0
Inca Dove (#2011-071) — Concordia, Ozaukee County	
P. Arnholt, 28 October 2011	5–0
J. Frank, 31 October 2011	5–0
D. Freriks, 1 November 2011 (photos)	5–0
T. Prestby, 1 November 2011 (photos)	5–0
J. Edlhuber, 1 November 2011 (photos)	5–0
T. Wood, 1 November 2011	5–0
D. Tessen, 1 November 2011	5–0
D. Gustafson, 1 & 15 November 2011	5–0
Indigo Bunting (#2011-072) — Sturgeon Bay, Door County	
T. Kile, 23 November 2011 (late)	4–1
Indigo Bunting (#2011-073) — Racine, Racine County	
J. Mooney, 25 November 2011 (late)	5–0
D. Enders, 25 November 2011 (photos)	5–0
King Eider (#2011-074) — Milwaukee, Milwaukee County	
J. Wenzel, 27 November 2011 (photos)	5–0
J. Mooney, 27 November 2011 (photos)	5–0
J. Ambrose, 27 November 2011 (photos)	5–0
D. Gustafson, 28 November 2011 (photos)	5–0
T. Wood, 28 November 2011	5–0
J. Edlhuber, 28 November 2011 (photos)	5–0
D. Tessen, 28 November 2011	5–0

Northern Parula (#2011-075) — Sheridan Park, Milwaukee County	
T. Wood, 29 October 2011 (late)	5-0
Pacific Loon (#2011-076) — Washburn, Bayfield County	
R. Brady, 29 October to 22 November 2011 (photos)	5-0
N. Anich, 11-23 November 2011 (photos)	5-0
Pacific Loon (#2011-077) — Wisconsin Point, Douglas County	
D. Gustafson, 24 September 2011	5-0
T. Wood, 24 September 2011	5-0
T. Prestby, 24 September 2011 (photos)	5-0
D. Tessen, 24 September 2011	5-0
Pacific Loon (#2011-078) — Oconto Harbor, Oconto County	
K. Kavanagh, 15 November 2011	5-0
Pacific Loon (#2011-079) — Harrington Beach SP, Ozaukee County	
T. Wood, 27 October 2011	5-0
Plegadis sp. (#2011-082) — Horicon Marsh, Fond du Lac County	
D. Tessen, 1 & 6 November 2011	5-0
Red Phalarope (#2011-083) — North Beach, Racine County	
J. Wenzel, 25 November 2011 (photos)	5-0
J. Mooney, 25 November 2011	5-0
D. Enders, 25 November 2011 (photos)	5-0
Red Phalarope (#2011-084) — North Point, Sheboygan County	
Q. Yoeiger, 14 November 2011 (photo)	5-0
T. Wood, 15 November 2011	5-0
C. Schroeder, 15 November 2011 (photo)	5-0
D. Tessen, 15 November 2011	4-1
Red Phalarope (#2011-085) — Wind Point, Racine County	
S. Kennedy, 2 November 2011 (photo)	5-0
T. Wood, 2 November 2011	5-0
D. Gustafson, 7 November 2011 (photo)	5-0
Rufous Hummingbird (#2011-087) — Washington Island, Door County	
G. Foster, 6 August 2011 (photos)	5-0
Sabine's Gull (#2011-088) — near Ashland, Bayfield County	
N. Anich, 25 September 2011	5-0
Sabine's Gull (#2011-089) — Wisconsin Point, Douglas County	
P. Svingen, 19 September 2011	5-0
T. Prestby, 25 September 2011	5-0
Say's Phoebe (#2011-090) — Terry Andrae State Park, Sheboygan County	
C. Schroeder, 29 October 2011 (photo)	5-0
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (#2011-091) — Cty Hwy E, Kewaunee County	
N. Seeger, 30 October 2011 (photo)	5-0
D. Tessen, 31 October 2011	4-1
J. Trick, 1 November 2011 (photos)	5-0
D. Freriks, 2 November 2011 (photos)	5-0
T. Wood, 3 November 2011	5-0
J. Mooney, 4 November 2011 (photos)	5-0

(Continued)

Table 1. (Continued).

Spotted Towhee (#2011-098) — Muscoda, Grant County	
R. Ouren, 11 October 2011 (photos)	5-0
C. West, 13 October 2011 (photos)	5-0
D. Tessen, 13 October 2011	5-0
Swainson's Hawk (#2011-099) — Cedar Grove, Ozaukee County	
H. Mueller, 14 October 2011 (photos)	5-0
Vermilion Flycatcher (#2011-101) — Muskrat Lake, Rock County	
Q. Yoerger, 5 November 2011 (photo)	5-0
D. Tessen, 6 November 2011	4-1
J. Edlhuber, 7 November 2011 (photos)	5-0
D. Gustafson, 7 November 2011	5-0
T. Wood, 11 November 2011	5-0
D. Alton, 11 November 2011 (photos)	5-0
D. Freriks, 18 November 2011 (photos)	5-0
Western Kingbird (#2011-102) — Horicon NWR, Dodge County	
J. Longhenry, 25 August 2011 (photos)	5-0
Western Tanager (#2011-105) — Merrill, Lincoln County	
D. Belter, 1 November 2011 (photos)	5-0
D. Tessen, 2 November 2011	5-0
T. Wood, 3 November 2011	5-0
R. Cameron, 6 November 2011	5-0
White-eyed Vireo (#2011-106) — Sheridan Park, Milwaukee County	
S. Lubahn, 28 October 2011 (late)	5-0
Wilson's Phalarope (#2011-108) — Trempealeau NWR, Trempealeau County	
V. Hirschboeck, 7 November 2011 (late)	5-0
Yellow-throated Vireo (#2011-109) — Appleton, Outagamie County	
A. Rice, 19 October 2011 (late)	5-0

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

A new feature in this report is the addition of voting tallies for each record. These are shown in parentheses in the header for each record. Votes to accept are listed first. Two or more dissenting votes from the five-person committee results in a Record Not Accepted.

Audubon's Warbler—

#2011-056 Chippewa Co., 11 September 2011 (photos) (2-3).

The submitted documentation had

no text description and thus the identification relied on two photos of mediocre quality in harshly contrasting light. Clearly a Yellow-rumped Warbler, the bird appeared to be an immature/female type with brownish color, limited streaking on the underparts, and subdued color tones. The throat appears to have a yellowish wash but it's not bold and the exact extent was difficult to confirm from the images. Some "Myrtle" Yellow-rumped Warblers can show a faint yellowish wash during the fall. There was also concern the yellowish wash might wrap around to the

back of the auriculars, which also favors Myrtle. Finally, the photos were not clear enough to determine the facial pattern and thus the plainer face of the Audubon's could not be seen. Overall there weren't enough details to verify this identification.

Barn Owl—

#2011-057 Juneau Co., 1 August 2011 (1-4).

This bird was seen perched and briefly described as mostly white with pale tan markings and a heart-shaped face. There was no mention of the dark eyes or long legs of a Barn Owl. Color of facial disk, presence or absence of ear tufts, and exact location of other plumage colors were not noted. Also concerning was its description as taller than a Barred Owl. The identification may have been correct but the description did not successfully eliminate Short-eared Owl or fledglings of other owl species.

Black-headed Gull—

#2011-060 Manitowoc Co., 18 November 2011 (2-3).

This adult bird was seen by a single observer in the company of a Bonaparte's Gull distantly on Lake Michigan. The identification rested solely on the bird's larger size and apparent dark primaries on the underwing. Some committee members had concerns that these were features that could be easily misjudged with gulls in flight at long distances on the Great Lakes. Moreover, other features important to this identification were not mentioned (and perhaps not seen), including bill color, leg color, white outer primary on underwing, and wing shape. Structural differences between Black-headed and Bonaparte's

Gulls are distinct and would have markedly assisted this report.

Cinnamon Teal—

#2011-064 Jefferson Co., 4 September 2011 (0-5).

The observer described a teal-sized duck with noticeable brick-reddish color to head, neck, and body and a long, dark, spatulate bill like that of Northern Shoveler but smaller. It had small light blue shoulder patches, black rump and undertail outlining whitish undersides, and a tail thought to be slightly longer and "stuck up a bit more than is typical for Blue-winged Teal." The committee deliberated over this intriguing report but ultimately felt such a difficult identification of a male teal in eclipse plumage was limited, as reiterated by the observer him/herself, by the distance (150+ meters), lighting (mostly cloudy), and wind (causing scope shake). The bird also was not seen in direct comparison to other teal, and eye color was not observed. Some committee members felt the lack of white facial crescent, black rump, and reddish body tones were not out of range for an eclipse male Blue-winged Teal. The possibility of a hybrid also could not be eliminated. Finally, the lack of supporting documentation from three other observers was troubling.

Eider species—

#2011-065 Sheboygan Co., 26 November 2011 (1-4).

Seen with Greater Scaup and other divers, this duck was vaguely described as dark brown, larger than two adjacent White-winged Scoters, and "squat" with a rounded head. No other details could be seen or were provided. Without a more detailed account of body

plumage, head shape, and bill features, no solid identification can be discerned from this report.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow—

#2011-066 Waukesha Co., 2 August 2011 (2-3).

The observer was riding his/her bicycle without binoculars and saw two birds flush at close range. One was a female House Sparrow and the other was similar in size but with a black ear spot and a “different” crown that was soon thought to lack any gray. Unfortunately, this was a terse observation without optics and few field marks were noted. Eurasian Tree Sparrow typically appears smaller than House Sparrow and its white neck collar was not seen. More details would be needed to clinch the identification.

Golden Eagle—

#2011-068 Polk Co., 19 August 2011 (early) (0-5).

This eagle was seen over a lake with naked eye into a bright, lowering sun. It was described as bigger than a Bald Eagle with golden mantle on head and shoulders, no white in tail but a light “window pane” (patch) on the bottom of one wing. However, Golden Eagles are not larger than Bald Eagles and an immature bird with white in the wing would also should a white patch at base of the tail. Also, the gold on a Golden’s head does not extend to its shoulders. Time of year, habitat, and plumage description appear to suggest the more expected juvenile/immature Bald Eagle.

Philadelphia Vireo—

#2011-080 Milwaukee Co., 29 October 2011 (late) (2-3).

The observer described this bird as

“too long to be a warbler” and having plain darkish green wings without wingbars, green upperparts, bluish-gray crown nape, yellow throat, yellow undertail coverts, whitish eyebrow and a dark eyeline. It was observed in good light at 20-30 feet with 7× binoculars. The committee was intrigued by this report, including careful consideration of similar species by the observer, but ultimately had concerns about the bird being compared to warblers based on plumage instead of structure, lack of details regarding bill size/shape, and being described as long, which is more reminiscent of Warbling than the shorter Philadelphia. While the ID may have been correct, some committee members felt the evidence fell short of that needed for verification.

Rufous Hummingbird—

#2011-086 Clark Co., 16 October 2011 (photos) (0-5).

**Note: This bird was accepted (5-0) as a *Selasphorus* (Rufous/Allen’s) hummingbird.*

Photos and description indicate an obvious immature or female-type Rufous/Allen’s Hummingbird with greenish crown and back, rufous flanks, and extensive rufous throughout the tail. It had a single line of orange-red gorget feathers in an arc shape. The bird was not captured for measurements and the photos do not show the spread tail feathers. As such, elimination of Allen’s from the more likely Rufous is not possible and thus the committee did not accept the record as submitted (Rufous) but rather as *Selasphorus* species.

Sabine’s Gull—

#2011-089 Douglas Co., 19 & 25 September 2011 (2-3).

This report involved one individual on the former date and two on the latter. No field marks were described other than “small gulls . . . with the distinct 3 triangular wing pattern.” A simple sketch of the wing was provided. Although the ID may have been correct, very limited details force the committee to make many assumptions in accepting such an observation. Additional remarks on wing shape, flight style, body size, plumage colors/features, etc. are needed.

Selasphorus species—

#2011–093 Outagamie Co., 18 August 2011 (1–4).

Seen adjacent to an adult male Ruby-throated, this hummingbird had “rufous flanks, with a little rufous on the tail and just a very little on the back.” It was similar in size to the Ruby-throated and had greenish crown and back with whitish breast. Distance of observation was not provided. The committee felt juvenile Ruby-throated Hummingbird, which often shows buffy flanks and a golden scaly effect on the back, was not adequately eliminated. The extent of rufous in the tail or any other plumage/structural features allowing separation from the expected species were not described. Finally, while not conclusive, the timing of the observation does not favor Rufous, as late summer/early fall migrants are typically adult males, not the immature/female-type described, which often arrive later in fall.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper—

#2011–094 Jefferson Co., 7 September 2011 (0–5).

This shorebird was similar in size and shape to Pectoral Sandpiper but its body was somewhat rounder. It had

reddish-brown back and wings, relatively plain underparts with dingy upper breast lacking streaks, and a reddish-brown cap with distinct whitish supercilium that was as wide behind the eye as in the front. The bill was said to be less droopy than a Pectoral's. The observer was surprised that the bird was an adult in non-breeding plumage instead of the “expected” juvenile plumage, as evidenced by the lack of buffiness on the upper breast and sides of neck.

The committee was very intrigued by this fairly thorough report. However, such a mega-rarity needs exceptional documentation and there were too many gaps and uncertainties to verify this difficult identification. The observer was initially not sure of what s/he had seen and later “convinced him/herself enough to submit” the documentation as such. However, three other observers did not. The observer admitted to bad lighting and a distant bird. Leg color, presence/absence of an eye ring were not noted. The bird also was said to have rufous cap and upperparts, which is not consistent with an adult of this species. More description of the structure and other features eliminating White-rumped Sandpiper would have helped. Of course, even basic photographs can greatly assist the committee's assessment of such records as well. Overall, given the accidental status of this bird in the state (and country), the difficulty of discriminating Sharp-tailed Sandpiper from the more expected and highly variable Pectoral Sandpiper, and the previously mentioned shortcomings, the committee felt such a record could not be accepted as presented.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper—

#2011–095 Outagamie Co., 3 September 2011 (0–5).

This shorebird had a rufous crown, bright buffy breast with almost no streaking, and was more “chunky” than an adjacent Buff-breasted Sandpiper. It had a distinct white eyebrow that broadened behind the eye, rufous markings on the upper back, and possibly an eyering but the latter was not clearly seen. As with Jefferson County bird, the committee carefully weighed this intriguing report but again felt the level of evidence presented did not allow verification of this national megararity. More details on how the variably-plumaged Pectoral Sandpiper was eliminated including bill features, eyering, and body structure, would have been helpful. In light of such a brief observation of an extremely rare bird made by a single observer, photos or sketches and/or a very detailed description are required for acceptance in the state records.

Spotted Redshank—

#2011–096 Dane Co., 3 September 2011 (0–5).

This shorebird was similar in size to adjacent Greater Yellowlegs but was described as having striking reddish/orange legs, solid gray breast with no barring below, gray upperparts, and a very prominent white supercilium. It had a long thin bill but the observer could not see any coloration or its shape at the tip due to a bad angle. The bird was seen by a single observer for 10 minutes at a distance of 200 feet with 8.5× binoculars. Again, as described with the Sharp-tailed Sandpipers, the standards for documentation of such an exceptionally rare bird in North America are

very high. This short, scopeless observation by a single observer lacking important bill features (e.g. color, drooped tip) and photos/sketches is difficult for the committee to assess, although it is no doubt intriguing and leaves us wanting more. Variability in Greater Yellowlegs, including their occasional showing of orangish-yellow legs, raised additional concerns.

Spotted Towhee—

#2011–097 Milwaukee Co., 25 September 2011 (0–5).

The report included no written description, just several photos. The photos show an obvious male towhee molting from juvenile to adult plumage. Some white spots on the wings and a few on the back initially suggest Spotted but closer examination reveals that most of the white is at the base of the primaries and very little on the greater secondary coverts and scapulars. As such, this bird appears to fall within range of variability for an Eastern Towhee or less likely is a hybrid Eastern × Spotted. If a pure Spotted it would lack white at the base of primaries and have more extensive white spotting on the wing coverts (forming wing bars) and the back (scapulars and mantle).

Swainson’s Hawk—

#2011–100 Columbia Co., 6 September 2011 (1–4).

This was a large buteo first seen on a power pole and then briefly in flight. It was said to have a brownish upper breast, white belly, underwings with a “light, then dark” pattern, and light tail (not red) with barring. This brief description, however, does not indicate the age of the bird, does not clearly outline the underwing pattern,

lacks mention of the upperparts, and fails to assess structure and wing shape. The distance, lighting, and other circumstances of the observation also were not noted, making it unclear whether the bird was seen with binoculars, while driving, or in good/harsh light. As such, immature Red-tailed Hawk and other buteos cannot be confidently eliminated.

Western Kingbird—

#2011–103 Kewaunee Co., 1 November 2011 (2–3).

This bird was seen by a single observer in the same location as the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. It was smaller than a robin with a dark, squared off tail that was thought to be not as long as a Scissor-tailed. It also had a pale gray head and back, white throat patch, yellow belly, pale gray breast, and dark but not prominent eye line. The innermost flight feathers, i.e. secondaries and tertials, as viewed dorsally when perched were distinctively edged in white. Color of the outer tail feathers was not noted. Some committee members had concerns the bird seen was actually the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, which was a juvenile bird with yellowish underbelly, grayish upperparts, dark eyeline, fresh white-edged tertials, and a relatively short (for the species) black tail. Observers of that bird remarked on its similarity to a kingbird at first glance. Other committee members felt that even if actually a kingbird, this individual could not be confirmed as a Western because the presence/absence of white in the tail was not noted. Given the late date and influx of other southwestern vagrants this fall, this feature would need to be seen to exclude species such as Tropical or Couch's Kingbird.

Western Sandpiper—

#2011–104 Clark Co., 30 August 2011 (0–5).

The entire extent of this report was that of a small peep with a slightly drooped bill and similar in color to adjacent peeps, though the other species were not mentioned. Without additional details on body size, shape, structure, plumage, bill size/shape, such a difficult identification is impossible to confirm based on this report.

White-tailed Kite—

#2011–107 Burnett Co., 11 November 2011 (3–2).

This observation marked the most difficult record for the committee to assess during this fall season. The bird was seen with 8× binoculars at 100 yards for one minute under overcast skies. It was first seen hovering over and plunging into a sedge marsh and then flying directly away from the observer. It was described as a light-colored bird with very prominent black shoulder patches and pointed, falcon-like wings. In flight, the wings were held flat directly out from the body, not “v-shaped.” Poor lighting, brief timing, and a rear-end view as the bird flew away made for difficult assessment of plumage features. Rough-legged Hawk was reportedly eliminated because it would have a dark back and dark tail with white base, which this bird did not. It was thought not to be a Northern Harrier because that species lacks dark shoulder patches, has a prominent white rump patch, and typically holds its wings in a dihedral.

Some committee members felt the evidence presented did not allow confirmation of such an extreme rarity. The ID largely rested on the perceived

black shoulder patches, light coloration otherwise, and falcon-like wing shape and flight. However, there was no mention of body size (in fact, initial reference to thoughts of a Rough-legged Hawk are bothersome given that species should be much larger), head plumage, bill shape, or tail length/shape, little mention of most plumage details, and no view of the bird's underparts at all. White-tailed Kites typically hold their wings in a dihedral ("v-shaped") but this bird was described as flat. Moreover, the lighting was poor and the observation brief with only binoculars. Finally,

the timing was exceptional in that the Midwest has only 4 records in September, 2 in October, and none later than 8 October, potentially making this bird record late by more than a month. Of course, the black shoulder patches, overall light coloration, and hovering flight behavior all support the identification, especially in a year of extraordinary vagrancy of some species out of the drought-ridden southwestern U.S., but at least some of the committee felt these were not enough for acceptance of a potentially extraordinary record.



Connecticut Warbler photographed by Dennis Malueg

About the Artists

Stephen Fisher is a serious amateur photographer, enjoying both landscape and wildlife photography. He is a retired high school English teacher who worked as an environmental/wildlife educator and Education Director for the Raptor Education Group, Inc. (REGI) for seven years following his retirement from teaching in Wausau. He is now a volunteer at REGI, rescuing and/or transporting sick and injured birds. He and his wife, Evelyn, have always enjoyed and respected the natural world, and he has a special appreciation for birds, particularly raptors. He also enjoys traveling, reading, hiking, snowshoeing, observing wildlife, spending time at his cabin in northern Vilas county, walking his dogs in the wonderful Wisconsin outdoors, and lifelong learning.

Bob Larson, who lives in Kaukauna, is an advanced amateur photographer who concentrates his photography in the Fox Valley area. All nature centers and Haunts areas are fair game. Outagamie, Winnebago, Calumet, Brown, and Waushara Counties get the most attention. He switched to digital just before it became affordable and has been learning ever since.

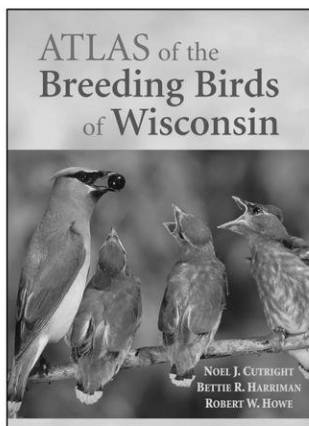
Dave Lund is an amateur photographer who lives near Eau Claire. Following his retirement as a Mathematics Professor at UW-Eau Claire in 2000, he and his wife Judy now include birding and photography as part of all of their travels. Although many of his pictures are taken in Wisconsin, wintering in the southern US has provided many additional opportunities for birding photography experiences. He has recently begun making presentations on birds and birding.

Dennis Malueg, Art Editor for *The Passenger Pigeon*, is a dedicated amateur bird and wildlife photographer who travels Wisconsin in search of his subjects. He also works from his own “studio”—his backyard, prairie, and forest in Waushara County.

Tom Wright is an amateur photographer who resides in Wales, Wisconsin, with his wife and two sons. When not focused on his family and work in IT/Engineering, much of his free time is spent outdoors photographing nature, especially wildflowers and birds.



An immature Common Yellowthroat from the camera of Dennis Malueg



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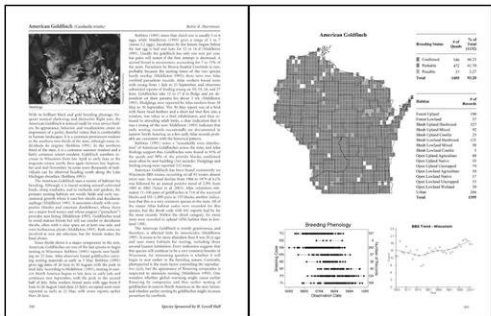
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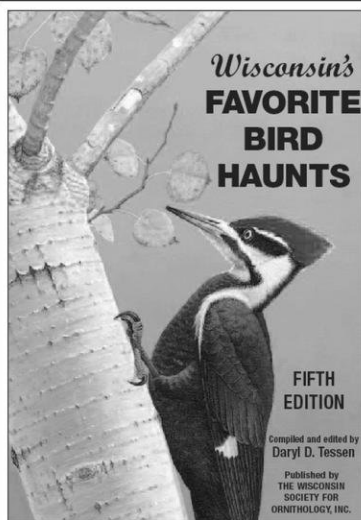
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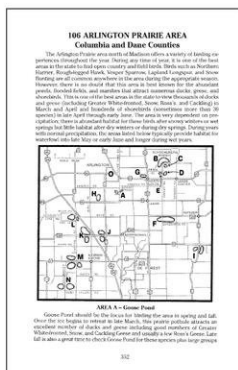
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OFFICERS (2012–2013)

President* Carl Schwartz, 7239 N. Barnett Lane, Fox Point, WI 53217-3610; 414. 416. 3272; cschwartz@wi.rr.com

Vice President* Kim Kreitinger, 2228 Monroe Street, Madison, WI 53711; 415. 265. 9153; k.kreitinger@gmail.com

Secretary* Jennifer Wenzel, 6108 4 Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402; 262. 488. 8077; miloloki@wi.rr.com

Treasurer* Christine Reel, 2022 Sherryl Lane, Waukesha, WI 53188-3142; 262. 844. 8187; christinereel2@gmail.com

Editors* Bettie and Neil Harriman, 5188 Bittersweet Lane, Oshkosh, WI 54901-9753; 920. 233. 1973; bettie@new.rr.com; harriman@uwosh.edu

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (2012–2013)

Annual Conventions Christine Zimmerman, 2708 Eisner Avenue, Sheboygan, WI 53083-2711; 920. 453. 4037; jeff.chris@charter.net

Awards* Daryl D. Tessen, 3118 N. Oneida Street, Appleton, WI 54911; 920. 735. 9903; bhaunts@sbcglobal.net

Bird Reports Coordinator* Joe Schaufenbuel, 5676 Regent Street, Stevens Point, WI 54482; 715. 345. 2788; schaufenbuel@charter.net

Badger Birder* Mary Uttech, 4305 Hwy. O, Saukville, WI 53080; 262. 675. 6482; muttech@asq.org

Bookstore* Penny Fish, 5539 Indian Mound Circle, Sheboygan, WI 53081; 920. 918. 6892; wsobookstore@hotmail.com

Conservation* William P. Mueller, 1242 S. 45th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53214; 414. 698. 9108; wpmueller1947@gmail.com

Education* position vacant

Field Trips* Thomas R. Schultz, N6104 Honeysuckle Lane, Green Lake, WI 54941-9609; 920. 294. 3021; trschultz@centurytel.net; and Jeffrey L. Baughman, W2640 Middle Road, Campbell-sport, WI 53010; 920. 477. 2442; jbaughman@csd.k12.wi.us

File Keeper Thomas C. Erdman, Richter Museum of Natural History, MAC 212, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, 2420 Nicolet Drive, Green Bay, WI 54911-7001

Historian* Noel J. Cutright, 3352 Knollwood Road, West Bend, WI 53095-9414; h. 262. 675. 2443, w. 262. 268. 3617; Noel.Cutright@we-energies.com

Honey Creek* Levi Wood, 4222 Mohawk Drive, Madison, WI 53711-3723; 608. 277. 7959; woodlevi@aol.com

Legal Counsel David L. Kinnamon, 9507 N. Wakefield Court, Bayside, WI 53217-1245; 414. 277. 5000

Membership* Jesse Peterson, 7680 Payvery Trail, Middleton, WI 53562; 608. 836. 8334; peterson.jesse@tds.net

Publicity* Ursula C. (Sandy) Petersen, P.O. Box 607, Stoughton, WI 53589; buboarcto@aol.com

Records* Ryan Brady, 75355 Bourgo Road, Washburn, WI 54891, 715. 373. 0230, ryanbrady10@hotmail.com

Records Committee Archivist Position vacant

Research* Maureen Leonard, Sciences Department, Mount Mary College, 2900 North Menomonee River Parkway, Milwaukee, WI 53222; 414. 258. 4810 x 372; leonardm@mtmary.edu

Scholarships and Grants* Michael John Jaeger, 1052 E. Gorham Street, Madison, WI 53703; 608. 335. 2546; jaegermj@charter.net

Webmaster* Paul Jakoubek, 5305 Pheasant Hill Road, Monona, WI 53716; 608. 221. 4995; WSOWebAdmin@jakahl.com

Youth Education Coordinator* Barbara Duerksen, 17494 Merry Hill Road, Richland Center, WI 53581; 608. 538. 3820; bduerksen@mwt.net

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